

Year 4 class curriculum Newsletter – Spring Term 2022 Mrs Cripps and Mrs Hine

Woeful World War II



A word from us...

Dear parents and children, we are looking forwards to continuing our exciting topic WWII! We have enjoyed the topic so far, especially starting it off with a fantastic trip to Cosford. Games with Chris will continue on a Monday afternoon, but PE will now be on a Thursday afternoon. Please ensure that children come into school in their kits on a Monday for games, with earrings removed and hair tied back, then they bring their PE kits with them on a Thursday for our exciting cricket sessions (outdoor kit and trainers please). All children should bring in a fruit snack for morning playtime as well as a filled water bottle everyday please. Spellings will continue to be uploaded to the website and tested each Friday in their spelling books, these will then be sent home for you to see their score, please ensure these are in school for the test each Friday. Please practise them regularly at home. Our times table tests are going well, these will now continue on a Monday each week and the scores sent home, please continue to practise regularly on TT Rockstars to help improve pace and in readiness for the multiplication check in the summer term. A reminder to please read with your child regularly, although many children are able to read independently, it is important they are listened to and their comprehension checked to develop their understanding. Once a book is completed, please sign their reading diary and leave any comments necessary, children are encouraged to complete a short book review once a book has been read. We now have access to the library every morning so children can change their reading book or library book any day. Please ensure your child's book and diary are in their bag every day, there may be times where we would like to read with them so having their book available is beneficial.

If you have any questions about your child's learning please contact us via email – kripps@birches.staffs.sch.uk / ehine@birches.staffs.sch.uk
Best wishes, Mrs Cripps and Mrs Hine

Dates to note this half term – 13th January – cricket to commence, 20th January – keyboard lessons resume, 24th Arts week in school, W/C 31st January – Parents meetings (letter to follow)

English:

In English this half term we will be reading a range of quality texts to develop our reading VIPERS. Each week we will focus on a range of questions to develop our 'Viper skills' – vocabulary, inference, prediction, explanation, retrieval and summarising. We are continuing to secure our sentence level skills; spelling, sentence structure, punctuation, and word groups to ensure these skills are secure and consistently applied. We will be learning key skills through learning about fables, biography writing and poetry.

Science/STEM

The children will initially continue their learning about electricity. The children will be finding out about insulators and conductors by testing them in a circuit. We will also make and test our own switches. We will then move onto Animals including humans. We will start by identifying and describing parts of the human digestive system. Then we will move onto the functions of teeth and finally learning about food chains.

Humanities

During this topic the children will learn about the events that led up to Britain declaring war in 1939. Through this topic the children will use their geographical skills to locate countries, oceans, and continents as well as significant landmarks involved within the war. The topic lends itself to a range of history skills and they will be able to develop a chronologically secure knowledge and understanding of British and World history.

Maths

This half term we have moved onto multiplication and division. The children will use their place value knowledge to explore practical, pictorial, and written methods for multiplying and dividing. We will also be learning about statistics in Maths as well as fractions and decimals, supported by their understanding of division.

Religious Education – Commitment: Lent
PE/Games – Games kit worn on a Monday. PE kit brought to school on a Thursday (outdoor with trainers). Cricket Focus
PSHE/British values – Me and my safety

Music – changes in pitch, dynamics and tempo: Rivers

Computing – Coding and Spreadsheets

MFL (French) – understand classroom instructions, counting, spelling in French, and identifying places.