

## London Plane Class Autumn Term 2020

### *A Child's War*



A siren sounds, a building crumbles, a Spitfire zooms overhead. Take cover. It's 1939 and Britain is at war. Deep down in the Anderson shelter, learn why nations are fighting and why child evacuees must make the long journey from their homes and families into unknown territory. Read the diary of Anne Frank, written whilst hiding from the terrifying stormtroopers in a secret annexe, and try to empathise with her hopes and fears. Make do and mend. Cook up a family meal from meagre rations. Delve deep into a bygone era, when loose lips sunk ships. And, as peace is declared, let's get ready to celebrate. Mr Churchill says 'It's an unconditional surrender.'

**As Mathematicians**, children will further their knowledge of place value, deepening understanding of larger numbers and how to round them. They will be working with the four operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. In class, we encourage the children to always explain their reasoning, recognise where and why mistakes have been made and to discuss the methods they have used. This will help to develop their confidence going forwards.



**In English**, children will explore the range of genres of writing and produce their own text to the best possible standard. They will work on writing descriptively and clearly and to adjust their style to suit the intended reader. Children will recap the full variety of descriptive writing techniques to fully engage their reader. Critical evaluation of their own and other's writing is regularly undertaken to appreciate what is effective. They will be immersed in high quality fiction texts that challenge them as readers and that provide writing opportunities with links to the topic, encouraging use of specialist vocabulary learnt in science and topic work. Children will continue to read daily and start to become more critical of what they are reading, discussing their texts with adults and peers. They will have spellings to work on each week and these will focus of the key Year 5/6 vocabulary.



**In Religious Education**, children will complete a unit exploring the key question of “How can following God bring freedom and justice?” They will explore the life and work of Moses using their Bibles, make connections between the texts studied and what Christians believe about how we should be behave.



**As Historians**, children will know and understand significant aspects of the history of the wider world, evaluating the human impact of war or conflict on the everyday life. They will look at world leaders and the influence that they have had over local, national and international history. Throughout their studies, they will find similarities and differences between children’s experiences both during the war and now, asking valid questions and evaluating the validity of historical sources.

**As Geographers**, children will learn about the location of key events of the Second World War, including where children were evacuated from and to and the cities and ports that were targeted during the Blitz.



**As Artists,** children will explore the campaigns designed to influence the lives of people in the UK during the Second World War such as Make do and Mend. We will be designing our own campaigns.



**As designers,** children will go through the complete design process: designing, making and evaluating their own Anderson shelters. They will make choices about the type of materials, effective ways of connecting these to make strong and stable structures. They will also have the opportunity to create and use recipes from the war, using rationing, to make food for their own street party

**As Musicians,** children will explore what songs were popular at this time, listening to a range themselves and composing their own songs to welcome home soldiers from the front line.



**In Computing,** children will learn how to use search technologies effectively and safely to conduct valid research into the content covered. Children will use suitable software to create an interactive book and a timeline reflecting the chronology of major events.

**In PSHCE,** children will learn what it means to be a Rights Respecting School. The aim is for all children to feel happy, safe and confident at school so that they are ready to learn. We will explore friendship and how we manage and move on from conflict.

**In Physical Education,** children will be working on a variety of team and individual games, including tennis, with the aim of developing both skills, co-ordination, stamina and team work. We will look at a range of games that were played around the time of the war.



## Homework

Our homework this half term should be a range of activities that will reinforce the learning that is being completed in class. The class should spend at least 20 minutes three times a week on each program, as it will be beneficial for each of them. The children have all been given a card with their different log ins. They also need to have access to Seesaw, where will post learning updates and other bits and pieces like spellings.

- 1) Prodigy – as you already know, this is a maths learning program. Their character levels up as they progress. To do this they are asked questions from the different area of maths. Every week I set specific areas that they need to practice from learning we have covered in class. The program feeds back to me, showing the progress that each child is making. If they are finding particular areas difficult, it makes it a little easier for them. They also are encouraged to come in and ask me.
- 2) Read Theory – this is a similar idea but with reading as a focus. Again, the children are reading a range of texts and answering questions about these. It also adapts the difficulty of the text to the level of the reader.
- 3) TT Rockstars – again, a similar idea but with respect to learning times tables.

Additionally, each week, the children will come home with five spellings from our new spelling scheme. They will receive these on a Monday and will have the rest of the week to learn them before being tested on a Friday. They will then receive the next five words for the following week. The test will cover all of the words that they have been assigned so far, increasing by five each week.

I will also be setting some work on Seesaw that will follow up the reading that we are doing in class based on the novel Goodnight Mister Tom. The type of task will vary each week, with the aim of developing their analysis and reflective reading skills, alongside the daily reading they should already be completing at home.

If you have any further questions, please do contact us on [mcheshire@chidham.w-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:mcheshire@chidham.w-sussex.sch.uk) and [lmacdonald@chidham.w-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:lmacdonald@chidham.w-sussex.sch.uk)