

General Class Information:

Values Education

This half term our Christian value is **PEACE** and our focus British Value is **Individual Liberty**. Our worships, PSHE and RE lessons and some topic lessons will be focused on our value. Please discuss our values with your child and think of ways they can demonstrate/develop these values this half term.



PE dates/times

PE will continue to take place on a **Wednesday** afternoon. Reminders about correct PE kit can be found in your child's school planner. The Key Stage 2 after school club will continue on a Wednesday.

Swimming will take place every Monday afternoon. Again, there are reminders about swimming kit within the school diary. Please keep an eye on the newsletter for any updates about swimming or after school PE clubs.

Health and Safety

Please ensure that earrings are taken out for PE and swimming. Children will not be allowed to swim with earrings in.

It is really important that all children have access to water throughout the school day. Please ensure your child has a clean, labelled water bottle in school at all times.



School Planner

We hope you are finding the new planners useful and are supportive of any school-led home-learning activities, or additional activities you may wish to complete with your children. Please do continue to refer to your child's new diary for guidance and as a place of communication between home and school. Teachers will be continuing to monitor how the children use their diaries frequently throughout the term and actively encouraging them to track their own learning by filling out their planners frequently.

Parent meeting dates

Please keep an eye on the news letter for weekly updates about after school events and meetings. However, here are a few key dates you may wish to put in the diary in advance:

Friday 16th November—Children in Need celebration worship

Friday 7th December—Christmas Fayre

Tuesday 11th December—Christmas Thank You Worship

Friday 14th December—Celebration Worship at Chapel

Tuesday 18th December—Pantomime Theatre Visit (Whole School)

Thursday 20th December—Christmas Service at Grindon Church

More December to follow in the newsletter.

Yours Sincerely,
Mrs L Lafford



Celebrate Learning, Achieving and Friendship in God's Love

Theme-Blitzed Brits



White Tigers
Autumn 2



WELCOME BACK

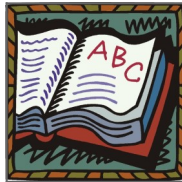
Welcome back to Autumn Term! Below is a brief outline of what we will be learning in each subject this half term.

Religious Education

Our first topic this half term is entitled 'How can following God bring freedom and justice' and will build on some of the ideas explored in our Autumn 1 scheme of work. Nearer to Christmas, we will also be considering, 'Was Jesus the Messiah?'

Literacy

We began our literacy work this half term with work on a selection of poetry. This week, we have learned a classic poem by heart, written simile poems containing personification and had a go at a more modern form of poetry called blackout poetry. Later on, once we have greater experiences of war time for ourselves (through shared texts and topic experiences), we shall be writing first person accounts in the form of recounts and letters. Our focus class text is *Goodnight Mister Tom* by Michelle Magorian but we shall be dipping into a range of texts during literacy and reading sessions including *Rose Blanche*—a picture story-book, *Carrie's War* by Nina Bawden, *Letters from the Lighthouse* by Emma Carroll, *Once* by Morris Gleitzman, *The Machine Gunners* by Robert Westall and *Tail End Charlie* by Mick Manning. These may be texts you wish to explore from the library to extend your children's learning experiences and knowledge.. As well as texts, we shall be exploring war through song and video—something the children always enjoy and respond well to. Spelling continues to be a main whole-school focus—please ensure any spellings sent home are practiced weekly.



Maths

We begin the term with work on multiplication and division. We shall be exploring multiples, factors and primes as well as knowing multiplication and division facts by heart and using and applying them to help solve problems with bigger numbers. We will be learning how to compute efficiently using long and short multiplication and the bus stop method of division. Please see your child's class teacher or your children's planners (which contain detailed examples of the methods we use with the children) if you require further

clarification or support with these methods. Each week we will be using reasoning and problem solving activities to check our depth of understanding.

Science

This half term we will be learning about light and shadow. Our investigation this half term is linked to our topic. We will be finding out how we can use reflection to improve the design of a search light used during air raids.



ICT

We begin our computing lessons with discussions about cyber-bullying this half term. With Anti-bullying week beginning on the 12th November, discussions about all forms of bullying will be given high importance. Online, the children will be using podcasting to report topic learning. We will be using war time wireless announcements as stimuli for our own podcasts.

PE

This half term the children will be taking part in weekly PE sessions to develop their skills in invasion games. They shall also be swimming every Monday afternoon. Please see the back of this leaflet and your child's school planner for more information about PE.

Creative

Our topic this half term is all about Britain in WWII therefore we shall be starting our topic on Remembrance week and using literacy activities to investigate the impact of war on the world. In topic time, we will be exploring various aspects of WWII, from the experiences of evacuees to the effect propaganda had on people living in Britain and in Germany. Our lessons will be very practical, giving the children a true flavour of what it must have been like to live through WWII as a child. In DT, we will be using war-time recipes and advice from home-front chef, Marguerite Patten to create war-time Christmas treats to sell at the Christmas Fayre.



French

In French this half term, we will be learning vocabulary associated with our journey to school and directions. Closer to Christmas, we will be learning all about celebrations, exploring some of the differences between our traditions and traditions in France.

PSHE

Our PSHE focus for this half term is 'Me and my relationships'. With anti-bullying week coming up, our first focus will be on maintaining good friendships ourselves. We will then look towards a wider community and how anti-social behaviour can effect the peace between communities. Again, our war theme will be useful to help us with our reflections.

Homework

Literacy -

Reading is a very important part of your child's learning. Children in Key Stage 2 are still expected to read for 30 minutes a day and record this in their school planners. Your child will have a levelled Accelerated Reader book to read at home. Once Accelerated Reader books have been read, your child will complete an online quiz in school to check their understanding. This is integral to the scheme and an important measure of your child's progress. Please discuss your child's reading book with them before they complete their quiz to check their understanding.

Spellings are usually sent home every Monday and are tested the following Monday (text updates will be sent out if these days change). Details of the spelling patterns covered in class will be attached to the top of the spelling homework sheets. Spelling homework can be completed on the sheets that will be sent home.

Maths -

This year, the children will continue to work towards their 'Under the Sea' mental maths targets as well as practising a core set of wider mental maths skills called 'KIRFs' (please see below). Practise towards mental maths skills and targets must be done at home in order for the children to progress through the scheme. Rewards are given in celebration assemblies for children completing their target level. For those who have completed the scheme, the children will be choosing their own maths targets (with consultation with the teacher).

New Homework Requirements

Our new KIRFs are working well to target and improve mental maths skills throughout school. Each half term, the children (Y1-6) will continue to be given a Key Instant Recall Fact (KIRF) to practise and learn at home as well as in school. A new information sheet detailing the KIRF and practical ideas for mastering the key facts is included in homework books.

For Y1-6, KIRF homework will be set by the class teacher once a fortnight (a SPaG-based task will be sent home on alternative weeks). The practise of these KIRFs has replaced our weekly creative style homework which we feel had become less effective in moving the children's learning forward.

All homework will be set on a Friday and is due in the following Thursday.