

YEAR 6 BLOG

Spring Term 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope that you had a good holiday. Our learning question for the spring term is: **What has influenced our world the most since 1914- inventions, events or people?** and this question will continue to be the starting point for many different subjects this term.

English

Linked to our topic, in English, the children will be writing diary entries, newspaper reports, letters, flashback narratives and persuasive texts, all linked to our class books, *Private Peaceful* by Michael Morpurgo and *The Buried Crown* by Ally Sherrick. For additional tasks, why not write a poem about a soldier in the war or from the perspective of a family member / friend left at home, or maybe a story set in the war - you could be an evacuee sent to stay in a different place. How will you fit in, do you understand the language, what do you do all day? Alternatively, you could practise your diary writing skills and write a diary entry from a soldier fighting for his country or from a family member left at home wondering what is happening on the battlefield.

Maths

This term children will continue to develop their understanding of the four operations, fractions, decimals and percentages, through problem solving skills. They will also undertake short regular arithmetic challenges, as calculating efficiently and accurately plays an important part in being able to problem solve successfully. Children will also revisit, time, measurement, geometry and shape. For an additional task, why not devise a selection of worded problems or reasoning puzzles for other children in Year 6 to complete.

History, Geography & Science

This term, Year 6 are reading 'Private Peaceful' by Michael Morpurgo which tells the story of 24 hours in a young soldier's life at the front during WW1, and captures his memories as he looks back over his life. They will then read 'The Buried Crown' by Ally Sherrick, which is about a young boy's adventure to find and protect a magical Anglo-Saxon crown during WW2. Both of these texts will provide an exciting stimulus for their writing across a range of genres. The children will gain a sound understanding of this topic by researching key facts, events and significant individuals who have helped shape history. In geography, they will be learning about alliances, countries involved in the world wars and the economic activity between countries. Through science, pupils will look at living things and their habitat and will gain an understanding about classification and types of organisms. They will then move onto light, exploring refraction, light travelling in various ways and shadows.

For an extension to our learning at school for **history**, why not research an element from WW1 and write a comparison to today, for example, it could be types of plane used in the airforce, or differences in uniform - maybe you could create artwork for the different uniforms used in the war to what is worn today; in **geography**, children could create a route map of famous battles in

WW1 or WW2, create some artwork (2D or 3D) depicting the flags of the different countries on each side or discuss the pros and cons for a debate on whether joining forces with other countries has helped our financial economy of the UK; in science, why not research famous scientists who have made important discoveries to do with light and shadows? Could you create a timeline depicting the different discoveries and/or theories? How about making a shadow clock or why don't you create some photos and send them in where weird or beautiful shadows have been created, as in the pictures here?



Computing

In computing, Year 6 will be learning how to create their own adverts. They will be researching, creating storyboards, using film and media equipment and refining their final pieces. To extend their learning from our topic, children could create an advert for a product used in the war. Think about colours, font, price of goods - did we even have £ and p ?

PE

This year, the professional sports company, 'Starsports', will teach PE. The two units for the spring term are Games and Gymnastics. Please remember that children should wear their PE kit to school on their PE days (**ELM**: Monday & Wednesday; **OAK**: Tuesday & Thursday) and earrings should be removed. To extend their learning at home, why not devise a new game or dance that you could teach to the rest of your class?

PSHE and RE

In PSHE, we will be looking at 'Recognising and Developing Strengths and Skills' and 'Working Together'. In R.E. we will be discussing what religions say to us when life gets hard, looking at the children's own views and views of others. Write a discussion text on whether it is right to have more than one religion practiced in a country.

Art and DT

During the term, Year 6 will begin by researching and creating their own propaganda posters. As well as this, they will be refining their sketching techniques to create WW2 inspired artwork. In DT, children will be designing and creating Anderson shelters and gas masks. Why not go on a virtual tour of the Imperial War Museum and create a collage of slogans used during the wars or research rationing and create your own ration book.

Music

In music, Year 6 will have opportunities to listen to a variety of music linked to our topics and create their own themed pieces using a variety of percussion instruments, glockenspiels and their voice. Children will continue to learn about pitch, pulse and rhythm and they will be learning to perform as part of a group using different harmonies. They will also learn to sing traditional Ghanaian songs.

French

In our French lessons, we will continue to extend our vocabulary and develop our understanding of French grammar, looking in particular at the rules for writing adjectives. Can you write a poem in French? Can you find out the French vocabulary for the different parts of a soldier's uniform?

Homework

English (written, spelling and grammar) and Maths homework is set weekly on a **Friday** and is due in on the following **Thursday**. Children will be set spelling and times tables homework on a Friday and they will be tested the following Friday. Spelling and times tables are a huge part of the New Curriculum so please help your child/children practise these **daily**. Two maths tasks will be uploaded each Friday to MyMaths all other tasks will be on Purple Mash. Children will be expected to complete all tasks in preparation for an increased amount of homework at secondary school next year. Children should also read to an adult every day and this needs to be written **daily** in their reading record with meaningful comments. Please ask your child questions as they read to you to improve their comprehension. Books will continue to be uploaded to Bug Club, along with grammar activities. All activities (including spelling words) will be uploaded to either Purple Mash, My Maths, TT Rock Stars or Bug Clug. If you can't access any of these, please let us know.

As we are currently unable to talk to parents at the classroom door, if you have any questions or queries about your child's learning or anything that you need to inform us about, please email us using the class emails which will be checked daily.

ELM (Mrs Atkinson): elmyear6@bonnygateprimary.co.uk

OAK (Mrs Bishop): oakyear6@bonnygateprimary.co.uk

Thank you

Mrs Atkinson and Mrs Bishop