



Concept: Exploring the World

The Big Debate: **It is possible to break the cycle of injustice.**

What will the children be learning?

In this project, the children will explore the concept of 'fighting for what matters' through a range of contexts. From a personal perspective, they will consider what matters to them and how their actions affect others. This will lead on to our **history** topic of World War 2, which will be explored through the eyes of residents living in Portsmouth at the time. After learning the events which led to the war breaking out and those involved in it, our attention will turn to our local area and the affect that the war had on residents living here. The children's learning will be brought to life through real-life accounts of the Portsmouth Blitz from residents, Portsmouth Council documents from the time and maps before and after the bombing. They will also learn about evacuation, propaganda and rationing.

This learning will link well with our **computing** unit, which is all about the work undertaken at Bletchley Park during the war. The theme will also continue through our **music** unit, as we discover and perform morale-boosting songs of the time. In **science**, the children will learn about evolution and inheritance, and in **R.E.** the concept of ritual will be considered from a range of perspectives, including its importance in the Muslim faith. In **PSHE**, keeping safe will be explored, both online and in everyday life. Please see the curriculum section on our school website for more detail about the subjects and skills to be covered.

English

Much of our English learning this half term's will be centred around our work on World War 2. The children will be transported back to 1940s Portsmouth and become a local news reporter, carefully and accurately reporting the events of the Portsmouth Blitz in the form of a newspaper report. This will also be an opportunity for them to secure their understanding of direct and reported speech. Linking to our learning on evacuees, we will explore the experience of a child being evacuated through the picture book 'The Lion and the Unicorn'. The powerful pictures and messages within the book will evoke great emotion, which the children will then use to write part of the narrative, focusing on characterisation. Finally, we will use poetry to convey the emotions of the local residents to the Portsmouth Blitz.

How to help at home

The children have been provided with their maths and English homework booklets for this half term, which should be completed each week and uploaded to Google Classroom. These have been tailored towards their end of year target and support skills practised during lessons in maths and English.



Please also encourage your child to maintain their regular practice of times tables using Times Tables Rockstars, as well their weekly focused spelling practice on Spelling Shed. All children have been reissued with their logins and passwords for TT Rockstars and Spelling Shed



Maths

Fractions will continue to be the focus for the first part of the term, with the children building on their knowledge gained to learn and practice new skills of calculating with fractions. This learning will be explored through practical resources and pictorial representations, before the children apply their skills to another Big Problem. Using their secure knowledge of fractions, our learning will then move to the links between fractions, decimals and percentages, before calculating with percentages is tackled. The final big problem of this unit will involve a 'shopping trip' to Tesco's, choosing sale items carefully to ensure the cheapest price is paid. Finally, 12- and 24-hour time will be revisited, before the children use their skills of reading and interpreting timetables to plan journeys on a local Fareham bus.

Children should also be reading independently and recording this in their homework booklets. At present reading is checked by class teachers each week alongside the other homework that is sent in on Google Classroom. We hope you are still using the Ranvilles Reading Masters booklets sent home in Year 5 to discuss reading and ask questions.

Swimming

Please note that the swimming lessons at Barncroft will take place on a Friday during the spring term.



This change will only apply to the swimming groups allocated to the spring term.

Other information

PE:

Monday – Hockey. Pupils will develop their understanding of the attacking and defending principles of invasion games. They will practise maintaining possession and moving the ball towards goal to score. In addition, they will develop their understanding of the importance of fair play and honesty while self-managing games and learning and abiding by key rules, as well as evaluating their own and others' performances.

Wednesday – Dance. Pupils will focus on developing an idea or theme into dance choreography. They will work in pairs and groups using different choreographing tools to create dances, for example: through using and applying formations, timing, dynamics.

Please ensure your child comes to school on PE days in the correct PE kit, as per our guidance on the website. We would ask that hair is tied up, if applicable, and earrings are left at home on these days.