



# WORLD WAR 2

Dear Parents/Carers and children,

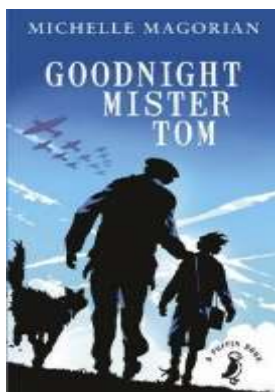
Welcome back!

I hope you had a lovely summer and have had a well-deserved rest.

I am looking forward to getting stuck in with our first topic and cannot wait to see Y6 settle in to being the top of the school. Y6 will not be easy, in fact, it will be challenging at times but I will be with them every step of the way and I have no doubt they will all flourish in everything they put their mind to.

Our first topic of the year is WW2. This theme will be taught through various subject areas including: English, Art/DT, History, Geography and Maths. Throughout this topic, the children will have opportunities to explore a range of significant events and influential people who were key during WW2.

### Reading:



Throughout our reading lessons, we will be reading a range of fiction, non-fiction, picture books and poetry texts. Some are linked to our WW2 topic while others are linked to other areas of the curriculum. We will be using the VIPERS strategy to improve the children's reading skills and support them in answering SATs style questions. Some of the texts we will be reading are, *When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit*, *History of Judaism*, *On a Beam of Light* and *Rose Blanche*. Our first class book will be *'Goodnight Mister Tom'* by Michelle Magorian.

### English:

During English, Y6 will be learning to plan, draft and write in a variety of different genres. This will mostly be linked to the WW2 topic. We will begin with a narrative and will move on, later in the term, to a balanced argument. With all writing pieces the children will be required to apply their learning from SPaG lessons to ensure they have a piece of writing that is coherent and well-written.

### Maths:

In the first two terms, we will be covering two mathematical areas: Place Value and the Four Operations. Every day we will practise our times tables and work on being able to

apply this to our mathematical learning. The children will also complete Morning Maths every morning. This will be arithmetic based and will provide the children with lots of opportunities to practise the methods they will need to use in their Maths lessons.

### **Science:**

Over the next two terms, we will cover two scientific areas: Light and Electricity. These units will involve lots of investigating, explaining, recognising, creating and planning through a range of activities and tasks. The children will learn to write up their experiments using key scientific vocabulary learnt throughout the week. The children will also have opportunities to read and watch videos from experts that will show the Science they are learning outside the classroom in real life situations.



### **Topic:**

Our Topic (Geography and History) lessons will be where we delve deeper into the WW2 topic. We will be using the internet and atlases to locate the countries linked to the theme, we will use a timeline to understand the chronology of key people and events and we will also try to find out more about the impact of WW2 on our local area. These lessons will not just be taught discreetly but they will also be woven through other areas of the curriculum, For example, in Maths we will be looking at rationing; using rationed ingredients and recipes to back some WW2 cakes.

### **Art/DT:**

Throughout the term, the children will have the opportunities to take part in a variety of creative tasks. We will look at two amazing artists (Henry Morre and Doris Zinkeisen) whose art has been inspired by their experiences of WW2. We will also use a range of materials and skills to design and create WW2 Air Raid Shelters/bunkers and light up Christmas cards using electrical circuits.



### **PE:**

PE will be taught every Wednesday and Thursday. The children should come into school on both days in their full PE kit. If anyone forgets or does not come into school in the correct uniform, we have a spare PE kit box that we can use.

### **RE:**

In RE during Term 1 and 2, we will be investigating two units, Judaism and Creation and Science. Both these topics contains questions that will get the children reflecting and drawing upon the experiences of others as well as their own.

### Music:

We will start the unit by learning to sing Pharrell Williams' song 'Happy'. We will then move on to a Classroom Jazz unit that will involve reading music and learning to play instruments to accompany soundtracks.

### SATS:

As we all know, Y6 will be sitting the 2024 SATS paper in May next year. In preparation for this, the children will be taking the tests at the beginning and the end of every term until then. There is no expectations for the children to be passing these papers at the beginning of the year but the aim of this structure is to measure how much progress they are making throughout the term and highlight any areas I need to focus on. Each mark they improve by on each paper is a square on a graph displayed in the classroom. This is not a competition but a way to allow the children to be aware of their learning and measure success on progress rather than passing or not passing.

### Home Learning:

In preparation for Secondary School, I will be setting homework each week. There will be academic weeks and creative weeks alternating throughout the terms. The academic homework will be tasks that consolidate their learning in class. There will be three short pieces to complete, Reading, Maths, and SPaG. This will be posted on Google Classroom but will need to be completed in homework books. Homework will be set on Monday and will need to be in on the Friday of that week. Home Learning will also involve daily reading, times table practise and learning spellings and non-negotiables. Creative homework involve the children being creative and creating or designing something linked to an area we are learning.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss something, please message me on Dojo or by emailing [jgroves@stmcep.school](mailto:jgroves@stmcep.school).

*Miss Groves*