



# Inspiring Curriculum Newsletter

## Kites

Summer 2024



**Our History Theme:**

**Blitz 'n' Pieces**

**Our Christian Values:**

Caring

Fairness

Commitment to Achieve

Honesty

Co-operation

Respect



Welcome back after the Easter break; we hope you had a restful break and have been able to enjoy the improving weather! We have a busy and productive summer term ahead, including sports day and the end-of-year show for year 5/6; we will also visit Bomber Command Centre in Lincoln later in the term. Thank you for your ongoing support of school, particularly with reading and homework, and of course our school events and fundraising activities.

If you need to speak to me about any questions or concerns you may have, please get in touch with the School Office and I will contact you by telephone or email. You can also see me on the school playground in the mornings and afternoons most days.

### **Summer Term 2024**

Our theme is **'Blitz 'n' Pieces'**

This history topic relates to World War Two, and our inquiry question is 'What was life like in Britain during the Second World War?'. For our WOW activity, we will undertake a trip to the Bomber Command Centre museum in Lincoln. There will be lots of activities to enjoy, including examining genuine artefacts from the 1940s, such as gas masks and military uniforms. The trip will give us the opportunity to consider how life was for civilians and service-men and -women during the war.

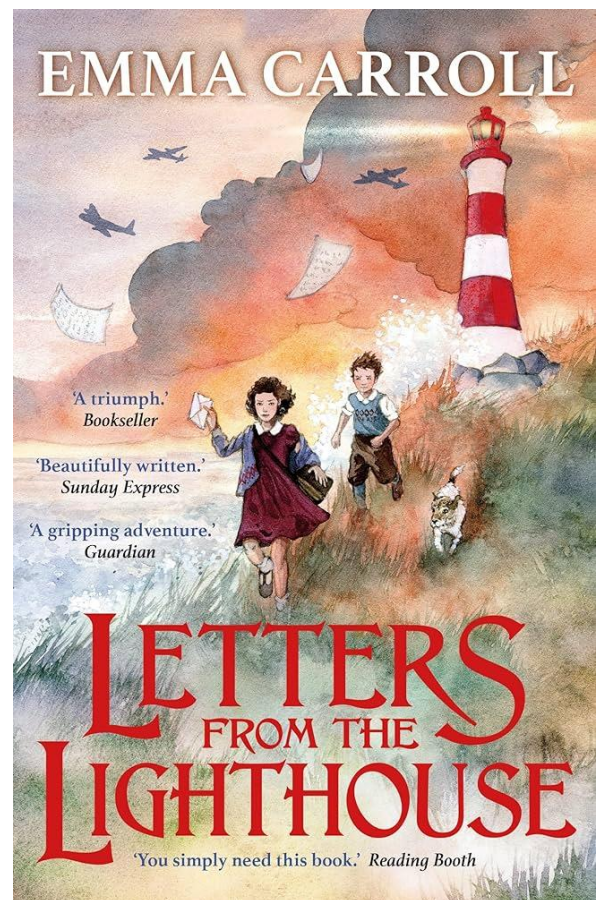
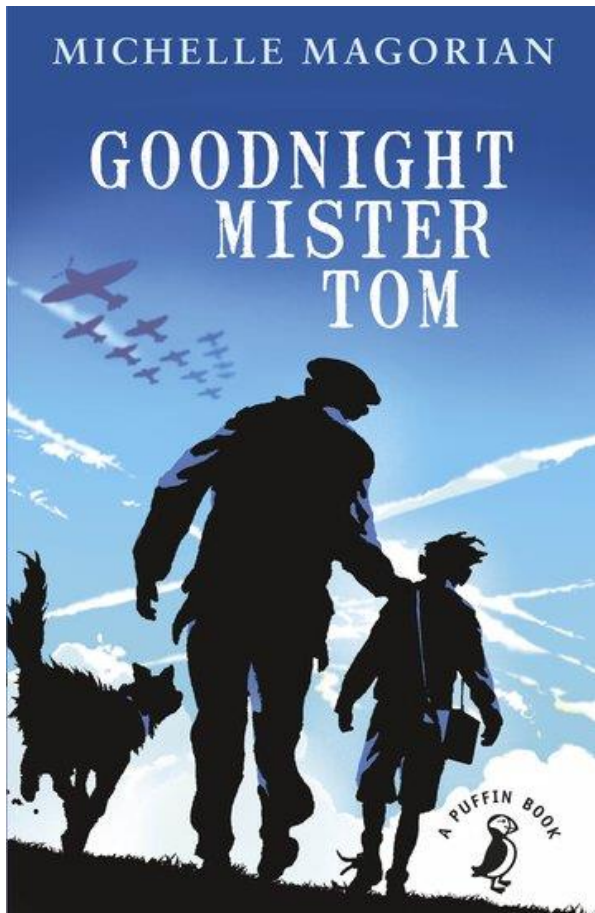
### **English**

In English, we will develop our knowledge and skills for writing across a range of text-types, including historical fiction, characterisation, news reports, explanation texts, playscripts (Shakespeare), biography, discussion texts and poetry. Our linked texts this term are 'Goodnight Mister Tom' by Michelle Magorian and 'Letters from the Lighthouse' by Emma Carroll; they are both wonderfully written and thought-provoking texts, which offer ample opportunities to inspire our creative writing. We will also have opportunities for cross-curricular writing, for example by completing accounts of evacuees and news reports of key events from the Second World War.

We will continue to improve our knowledge of spelling rules and grammatical structures, as part of our daily and weekly routines. Our daily Guided Reading gives children the opportunity to apply reading comprehension skills, including retrieval, inference, deduction and evaluation of text. At the same time, children's vocabulary knowledge will grow from exposure to different content and text types. We intend for all children to read for pleasure regularly, both at home and at school, and there are always many books in school for them to choose from. Pupils will also work on an unseen text each week to apply their learning from the week and to build their knowledge of a range of texts.

Spelling and handwriting continue to be vital to children's transcription skills. They will learn a spelling rule each week and practise it as part of their class work and homework. They will also learn a handful of words from the Y5 and Y6 list. All of these can be found in their Reading Record.

Our class readers this term will be:



### **Mathematics**

In Mathematics, we will focus on our knowledge of properties of shape, including angles, then learning about position and direction in Geometry. This allows us to improve our skills in areas such as co-ordinates, too. This will be followed by consolidation of learning about the Four Operations and of any other areas required; this knowledge can then be used in our maths investigations towards the end of the year, when we will hone our problem-solving and reasoning skills. We continue to practice key arithmetic skills daily which helps the children to feel confident with core methods and strategies. We regularly revise our knowledge of the times tables, including by using Times Table Rock Stars. As ever, we strongly advise pupils to keep practising these facts at home, to ensure swift recall of knowledge, which helps them build their skills across the maths curriculum.

### **Science**

This term in Science, we will learn about the Properties of Everyday Materials, which builds on prior learning about states of matter in year 3/4. We will develop our knowledge in this topic by learning about properties such as solubility, conduction and insulation; we will then test these and other properties through different investigations, such as by using filtration. We will also learn about some key scientists in this field, including Clarice Phelps and Stephen Gray. Throughout the science curriculum, we always apply our skills of working scientifically and using scientific enquiry methods to frame our learning.

### **History**

Our History unit explores what life was like in Britain during World War Two. The learning includes both knowledge and skills in the following areas: placing the Second World War in chronological and political context; understanding the experiences of evacuees; knowing about the events of the Battle of Britain, and the key aspects that determined its outcome; explaining the need for rationing; researching the role of women in the war; understanding the experiences of civilians during the Blitz; explaining key events of the war on mainland Europe, for example D-Day; exploring lessons learned from the Holocaust; and finally, understanding the events that led to the end of the war. All of our learning will be framed through historical enquiry questions, which will help the children to become successful historians as they apply knowledge to historical skills.

### **R.E**

In R.E., we will explore how beliefs are expressed through the arts, across many different faiths. We will know about different forms of expression, such as language, art, music, architecture, dance and drama. We will understand how people throughout history have expressed their beliefs through different representations, and how key religious principles inform many different designs. Throughout the topic, our RE skills will help us to understand how people of various faiths view the world and express themselves accordingly.

### **Music**

In Music this term, our topics are 'Introducing Chords' and 'Music and Me.' We will learn about different chords, and learn to play them, as well as continuing to learn and practise a variety of different songs, and becoming familiar with different pieces of classical and modern music. We will then create our own pieces of music to reflect our own interests and characters, and by consolidating the musical skills we have been learning about.

### PSHE

Jigsaw will provide the backbone of our Wellbeing and PSHE curriculum. The forthcoming themes are 'Relationships' and 'Changing Me'. We will focus on online communities and behaviours, and how we can behave appropriately and protect ourselves online. We will go on to build our knowledge of how we change as individuals, as well as helping to prepare children for transitions at the end of the summer. As always, these topics will be taught with sensitivity and mutual respect for others, which are both part of our key values, and are key skills needed in the PSHE curriculum.

### Design & Technology

In this subject, we will apply knowledge of rationing but bring it into a modern context, such as food aid. We will explore how food aid can be produced at low cost and with quality ingredients, design a food parcel according to certain criteria, and then use cooking and preparation skills to complete the process. In the second part of the term, we will research slogans that relate to our topic, and we will design our own slogan promoting peace. We will then use printing techniques to print our design onto t-shirts, which can then be evaluated according to our initial brief.

### P.E

In P.E., children will cover tennis, athletics and swimming. They will apply prior knowledge of striking games and the key concepts for different athletic track and field events. They will practise and apply the skills needed to participate, as well as how to measure and compare results in athletics. They will also develop their knowledge and skills in different swimming strokes and water safety.

### Important Information

In line with the [Federation homework policy](#), homework will be set on **Friday** and should be returned on **Thursday**. Children will be given some spellings: please help your child to practise them using our spelling task menu. Also, the children will be given some mathematics homework. This includes accessing Times Table Rock Stars and learning a set of mathematical facts that can be deployed across the Mathematics curriculum. Year 6 pupils will also continue to receive grammar and arithmetic tasks for the first part of the Summer Term.

Our P.E days are: **Monday** and **Friday (swimming when on)**.

Please listen to your children read as regularly as you can. This reading can include stories and reference books, newspapers and sports reports, recipes and instructions, websites and magazines – anything where they are reading! Please record your child's reading by signing their Reading Record Book.

I look forward to speaking with you again in person soon; however, please feel free to contact me in the meantime if you wish.

Kind regards,  
Mr. Kennedy  
Kites Class Teacher