

## Resilience – WWII (Autumn Term Y5/6)

Over this term, the children will be immersed in the history of Britain during WWII – starting with an immersive launch event and a trip to the RAF museum. They will learn about the Home Front and the experiences of evacuees, and learn what life was like for families including considering the changing role of women over the course of the war. They will link their learning about evacuees to the relevant Rights in the UNCRC. They will consider the Battle of Britain and debate its significance as a turning point in WWII. They will consider how Britain and its people displayed resilience at different points in the war, and how this supported the war effort – and think about the quality of resilience as a positive trait.

**The topic is led by the history content** – so the WCR texts shared in English should enhance and complement children’s learning about WWII, and provide additional opportunities to learn about what was happening in other parts of the Europe / the world during the war. Through their work with a range of sources, and their learning in art, the children will learn about censorship and propaganda – their role in the war, and consider whether either element plays a role in life today. Children’s learning in PSHE ‘Working Together’ and continued work on Zones of Regulation will lead them to reflect further on being resilient, what that means, and how developing resilience can support them in many ways.

Through their learning about migration and refugees in Geography, children will draw comparisons between different types of migration, the experiences of evacuees and displaced people during WWII, and the experiences of refugees and migrants today. They will consider the push/pull factors for migration, and the levels of persistence and resilience that some migrants/refugees demonstrate – and why this might be the case.

As the term progresses, children will prepare for Remembrance Day, finding out about where local armed forces members used to live in the village and employing their OS map skills to find their homes. They will participate in the school’s Remembrance activities, and be invited to join the community on Remembrance Sunday – some of them reading the names of the Fallen from the Great War and WWII.

In science and DT, the children will further develop their understanding of light, electricity, complex circuits and nets – and construct their own model Anderson Shelters with alarm systems. They will include evaluation criteria that link to their learning about the Blitz. They will prepare the school site for winter – supporting animal and plant life to thrive in the colder weather, and planting overwintering greens.

The topic will come to a close before Christmas with a landing event (a 1940s celebratory tea dance inviting local pensioners) that supports children to reflect on and exhibit what they have learnt over the term.

## Disaster Strikes! / Building Bridges (Autumn Term Y3/4)

The topic will be launched with the discovery of a giant mystery egg nest in the school grounds – roped off and being investigated by scientists. What is it? Where did it come from? Clues will lead the children to suspect that perhaps a dragon has been here!

This is a topic of two halves – the first immersing the children in the fantastical world of fire breathing dragons, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the second in how humans have developed stable structures, relationships and skills that help us to navigate disastrous events - as well as life's ups and downs. The children will learn about Diwali, the Hindu festival of light that celebrates the human ability to overcome adversity, and deepen their learning by visiting a Hindu temple. They will have the opportunity to let their imaginations and creativity shine through reading and writing stories about dragons, inventing their own dragons, and debating the question 'Could dragons be real?!'

In science the children will develop their understanding of the human body – learning about muscles and the skeleton, the digestive system and what good nutrition looks like. They will apply their understanding of the skeleton as a structure that supports by sketching / creating a skeleton of a dragon!

**This topic is led by the Geography, History and English content.** Children will learn about the power of the natural world through learning about how volcanoes and earthquakes form, and the impact on the physical and human geography in their locations. They will study the bridges of Cambridge and what they tell us about the city's history and how it has changed. They will develop their understanding of chronology through creating a timeline that includes bridge developments and the construction of bridges in Cambridge.

The children will work at the pond, allotment and forest areas as part of the eco-curriculum, including creating something delicious from our orchard apples, and finding out what lives in our pond in Autumn.

The topic will come to an end with an exciting landing: a bridge building challenge day (Mantle of the Expert mini project)!

## 999 Emergency! (Autumn Term Lower School)

This exciting topic will take our youngest children on a journey through time, place, science and creativity –using the themes of emergencies, helping others, and keeping safe.

*We will launch our topic with an emergency role-play day, where children come dressed as firefighters, police officers, doctors or even rescue animals! The classroom will transform into a busy control room with walkie-talkies, maps and high-visibility vests, and children will enjoy responding to pretend 999 calls around the school.*

In history, we will travel back to 1666 and explore the dramatic events of the Great Fire of London, discovering how the fire started, why it spread so quickly, and how people responded. Children will learn about Samuel Pepys and his famous diary, and we will even create our own time capsule of “important things” just like he did! We will also learn about Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot, and use our learning to develop our own risk assessment before enjoying a safe and sparkling bonfire party.

Our geography lessons will take us across the world as we compare London and Hong Kong, looking at the different types of homes, transport and weather. In science, children will investigate different materials, asking: Which would be best for a fireman’s jacket? Or for building a house that won’t burn down?

Art and DT will be full of seasonal creativity. Inspired by Andy Goldsworthy, we will explore the natural world and make beautiful sculptures using autumnal materials. In DT, children will sew their own textile Christmas decoration, learning basic stitching skills and creating something special to take home.

Linked to our unique Eco-curriculum’s ‘Harvest’ theme, children will learn about where our food comes from and how we can care for our planet and each other. We will also have a visit from a real emergency service worker to bring our learning to life!

We will finish the term with a Rescue Challenge Day, full of team games, problem-solving and fun, celebrating everything we’ve learned about bravery, teamwork and staying safe.