

# Year 6 Class Newsletter

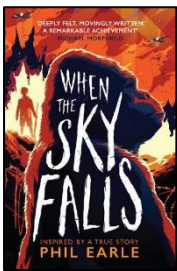
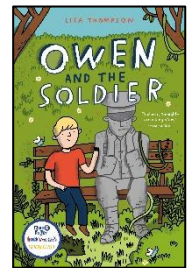
## Term 1

Welcome back after the Summer Holidays. I hope you are all rested and ready to start a new and exciting academic year!

### English

Our English lessons this term will be based on the books 'Owen and the Soldier' by Lisa Thompson and "When the Sky Falls" by Phil Earle.

Owen and the Soldier is a story about a boy who discovers a crumbling stone soldier in the local park and it feels like he finally has that someone he can talk to about his worries. But the town council can't see how important the soldier is and they want to remove him. Owen is scared that he will be left on his own again, but can he find the courage he needs to save the soldier before it's too late?



When the Sky Falls is inspired by a true story. It's 1940, and Joseph has been packed off to stay with Mrs F, a gruff woman with no great fondness for children. To Joseph's amazement, she owns the rundown city zoo where Joseph meets Adonis, a huge silverback gorilla. But, when the bombs begin to fall, it is up to Joseph to guard Adonis's cage should it be damaged by a blast. Will Joseph be ready to pull the trigger if it comes to it?

Both our chosen stories link to our topic this term (World War II) and aim to inspire and give purpose to the children's writing throughout the coming weeks.

### Maths

This term, our Maths lessons will focus on numbers and the number system, calculating, exploring fractions, decimals and percentages, as well as visualising and constructing 2D shapes, pyramids and prisms. Over the year, the children will be practicing all of the times tables up to 12, so that they can recall them fluently.

### Science

In Science, Year 6 will be exploring the Circulatory System. The children will learn how to keep their bodies healthy, as well as learning all about nutrition, the importance of exercise, their hearts and more. They will investigate how water and nutrients are transported in the circulatory system and recognise the impact of diet, exercise and lifestyle on how their bodies function.



## PE

This term, our PE lessons will be on a Thursday. Each Thursday, the children should come to school in their PE kit, which they will stay in all day. This will mean that they won't need to get changed in school and will reduce the risk of others accidentally touching their clothing or putting on items belonging to others. Please make sure that your child is wearing a suitable PE kit for the weather that day, such as a t-shirt, shorts and trainers for warm and sunny weather, or a tracksuit and trainers for colder weather.

## Foundation Subjects

Our History topic this term focuses on World War 2. The children will look at different sources that tell us about life in Britain during WWII, including ration books, diary entries and newspaper articles, as well as exploring the causes and consequences of World War II on Britain.

RE will be taught by Mr Hartnell and will focus on the question 'What matters most to Christians and Humanists?'

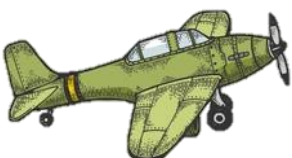
In Computing, the children will be exploring spreadsheets using Microsoft Excel.

In Art we will be taking inspiration from the street artist Banksy, replicating his work using different mediums as well as creating our own stencils and street art.

In Music, we are lucky to have lessons led by a specialist music teacher. These lessons will continue on from last year, focusing on learning to play the recorder.

In PSHE we will be exploring the topic 'Being Me in My World'. The children will explore what it is like to feel welcomed and valued, how to understand the needs and wants of children in different communities, learn how their actions affect themselves and others and how to contribute to a group. Our mascot this term is the Responsible Robin.

We will begin our Latin lessons this term and will develop our understanding of the origins of the English language.



## Reading

Reading is an important part of the curriculum and, as such, we believe that continuing to read with your child daily can improve their reading skills significantly. Therefore, we would appreciate it if you could read with your child as often as possible. This does not have to be your child reading to you, it could include sharing a book and discussing the content, as this helps tremendously with comprehension.

This year, children will have an online reading record. You will receive a separate letter about this.

## Homework

Children will continue to receive the following homework weekly:

- Spellings
- Reading
- Times Tables

In addition to this, there will be optional homework that can be completed based on the topic we are focusing on in school. This can be handed in at any time during the term.

The following are a list of ideas for your child to choose from:

- Research some of the work created by Banksy - can you recreate any of them at home? What is the message behind your chosen piece of work?
- Find a war time recipe and make it at home - take a picture of your meal to bring to school.
- Make, paint or sew a flag from a country involved in WW2.
- Create a quiz for your family with facts about WW2.
- Find out where children were evacuated from and to in England - can you show this on a map?
- Explain 6 things you would take with you if you were evacuated.

I look forward to working with you and your child this year. Remember, if at any time you have any concerns about your child, please feel free to contact the office to make an appointment to see me.

With best wishes,

Mr Buckland