

Literacy

Throughout this topic, we will be reading Michael Morpurgo's 'War Horse'

Narrative writing: The children will consider whose perspective the story is written from before analysing how the setting and characters are developed through the use of descriptive language. They will learn how to add extra information to a noun using both embedded and defining relative clauses. They will begin writing from the perspective of Joey, the story's protagonist, focusing on an important event in his life: being sold to the army. Before writing, the children will consider how the author uses language choices to enhance meaning before up-levelling their own writing to ensure they are writing for effect and with the reader in mind. Continuing our focus on descriptive writing, the children will learn how to use the DASH? technique to create tension, atmosphere and suspense. They will start to integrate direct speech into their narratives, focusing on how to punctuate this accurately and ensuring that any dialogue in their writing is used to move the action on.

Non-chronological Reports: An overarching theme of our story is friendship and the care shown towards the horses. Using the text as inspiration, the children will unpick how Joey is cared for, focusing on his diet, living conditions and assigned job role. After conducting their own research, they will then write a non-chronological report, informing the reader of how to care for a horse.

History

The children will begin this topic by identifying the four main causes of World War 1: militarism, alliances, imperialism and nationalism. They will use a range of primary sources to explore the public's reaction to the outbreak of war, as well as the trench conditions which soldiers found themselves in. They will identify significant turning points in the war, including the Battle of the Somme, and create a timeline to document these important events. Finally, the children will analyse the terms of the Treaty of Versailles, considering the impact this had around the world and how this contributed to the outbreak of World War 2.

PSHE/RHE

A focus on the Gospel story the 'Calming of the Storm' will enable the children to explore the trust we have in Jesus through times of trial and tribulation. This will the children celebrating their gifts and talents, discussing the changes that boys and girls experience during puberty and understanding how they can make good choices regarding rest, sleep, exercise, personal hygiene and diet.

Mathematics

In Maths this half term the children will learn to:

- Read, write, order and compare numbers up to 10,000,000 and determine the value of each digit
- Round any whole number to a required degree of accuracy
- Use negative numbers in context and calculate intervals across zero
- Solve number and practical problems that involve all of the above
- Multiply multi-digit numbers up to 4 digits by a 2-digit whole number using the formal written method of long multiplication.

Religious Education

Creation: Throughout this unit of work, the children will be aiming to answer the Big Question, 'Is it easy being one of the People of God?' This will involve looking at the joys and challenges of being a person of God, the rules we follow, including the Ten Commandments, and how the story of Cain and Abel teaches us to resolve conflict.

Warhorse



Enrichment

During our 'Evacuee Day,' the children will experience what life was like as an evacuee, how a billeting officer would assign children to a specific host family and some of the ways in which this was not always a positive experience.

Year 6 will work to raise money for the Royal British Legion throughout this topic and they will be responsible for leading the primary phase in a special Armistice Day service.

Physical Education

Basketball: The children will further explore a variety of passing skills and demonstrate the correct technique in sending and receiving a basketball. They will perform passing and receiving skills fluently and effectively within games, and be able to explain different situations in which a certain pass is appropriate. Different attacking principles will also be explored, which will focus on the outwitting of opponents using a variety of methods. These will include accurately replicating the crossover dribble, driving into space and keeping the basketball under control, and using their body to swerve or evade a defender. The lay-up shot will also be explored and children will be able to complete the two-step rhythm with the ball that is needed. The remainder of the unit will focus on gameplay and the exploration of tactics.

Science

In Science, the children will explore the composition of our blood and the role it has to play in the human body. They will create their own anatomically correct model of the human heart, exploring its structure and function. They will then move on to investigate heart rates for varying levels of exertion. Next, the children will describe how the digestive system works and complete an investigation into how nutrients and water are transported around the body. They will look at how blood circulates around the body, identifying the three main types of blood vessel, their function and the way in which they are structured for this purpose.

Finally, the children will consider how diet, exercise and lifestyle impact the human body. This will involve investigating the truths and myths surrounding the effects of drugs and alcohol on the human body.

Computing

This half term, the children will be learning about spreadsheets and how to collect and enter data. They will learn what an item of data is and how to choose an appropriate format for a cell. This will enable them to add formulae to cells, inputting data to document statistics from both World Wars.

Design Technology

The children will be challenge to make a 3D frame to hold a memorial painting. They will measure and assemble their frame and then choose from a range of finishing techniques.

Art and Design

In studying post-war rationing, the children will find out about the 'make do and mend' philosophy. They will learn to finger-knit and will use this skill to make knitted poppies, bookmarks and necklaces. They will then sell these to raise money for the Royal British Legion's annual poppy appeal.

Music

The main focus of this topic is to understand how music can create emotion. The children will listen to a live violin performance of Schindler's List. They will compose an emotive piece to fit a war storyboard and will learn about word setting in order to write a song about war. The children will understand the relevance of The Last Post, and be able to recreate a simple fanfare on tuned percussion. They will learn about the importance of Vera Lynn during World War II and will learn to sing or play a war song to perform in our whole-school Remembrance Day service.