

A warm welcome back



RANWORTH

Year 4 &5 (2017-18)

September 2017

Dear parents / guardians,

A warm welcome back to the Autumn term in Year 4-5. This is my second and third year of teaching some of the children and we have built a brilliant relationship. I do hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday and ready to begin the new academic year! We have a great project to start with, which I know the children are really looking forward to starting. World War II seems to have captured their imaginations already and they are raring to go.

As always, my main priority is to ensure that your child is happy, safe and confident in school, as happy, confident children make for successful eager learners. The teaching team in Ranworth will be myself, Miss. Simpson and Miss. Gill and will be happy to help with any concerns you may have over the half term and year ahead.

This half term we will be looking at some of the following areas of the Year 4 / 5 curriculum and hope to have your continued support outside of the classroom, as there are so many different ways to enrich your child's learning at home and out and about.

English	Maths	Science
<p>Fiction: learning a given short story and recounting to their peers using actions and drama. Splitting their given story into blocks and applying the structure in the planning and writing of their own stories.</p> <p>Poetry: choosing a selection of WWII poems, learn a chosen poem, breaking its content into blocks which can be used to create their own poignant poem about the war and the experience of living through it.</p> <p>Non-fiction- recounts: Using a first-hand account of an individual's experience of a specific event in WW2, look to be able to learn it and recreate our own version based on an actual event during the war.</p>	<p>Place value and its uses across the operations. Three to four weeks of in-depth development of the understanding of place value and its usage across all four operations.</p> <p>Addition and subtraction three-week block of varied use of the two operations, generating depth and extension of knowledge of current known strategies and the progression to new, more complex strategies. Further development and push to learn all times tables, with the objective of working towards instant recall.</p>	<p>Our Scientific focus for the first half term will be the study of the progression of human from birth to old age and the key changes that naturally occur as we age. Using research to assist us in our understanding and the experiences of individuals during given age bands.</p>
Topic		
<p>Our topic (for the whole of Autumn term) is WWII. We will be researching and learning about the following historical key areas; Outbreak of war, Britain takes to the skies, Winston Churchill, mapping key events and key speeches of the war, Dunkirk through poetry and art, digging for victory, make do and mend, Dad's army and the land girls, life of the evacuee, Anne Frank: Her diary and life, the holocaust and remembering the victims, D-Day landings, war coming to an end and VE day and street parties. We will go on a couple of trips to get some hands on experiences of the war, artefacts and events. We will have an evacuee dress up day, a period of time where they will have to take their gasmask boxes everywhere they go. The children will cook using only WW2 ingredients and quantities and have their own dig for victory plot. I would also like to explore the opportunity for an evacuee to come to school or even a living survivor of the armed services who served in WW2 to chat with us. (if anyone knows of such an individual willing to talk about their experiences to the children, we would be honoured to welcome them to Ranworth to recall their experiences.)</p>		

Helpful Websites

Topic

The list of websites below is by no means conclusive and please let me know if you find any further interesting sites I can share with other parents.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zbkw2hv>

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primaryhistory/world_war2/

<https://www.everyschool.co.uk/history-key-stage-2-world-war-2.html>

There are many more websites to visit with your child that will assist them in the understanding of our topic. Check out YouTube with your child (checking age appropriateness first) as there is a wealth of information and interviews.

Maths

<http://www.coolmath-games.com/www.mathletics.co.uk>
<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/levels/zbr9wmn>
<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/Key-Stage-2.html>
<http://primarygamesarena.com/Years/Key-Stage-2>
<https://mathsnoproblem.com/en/the-maths/teaching-methods/bar-modelling/>

See SLEP maths on YouTube for maths strategies

Reading

<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/reading-site/top-tips-for-reading/age-7-9--3>
<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games>
<http://www.free-short-stories.org.uk/short-stories-for-children/short-stories-for-children.htm>
<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar>

Intervention

Where we feel your child requires small ratio, extra help sessions to develop their understanding, it will take place in class or they will go off for short sessions, either individually or in small groups to focus on specific difficulties they may be having. The intervention plan for our school is called the 'We can club'. The intervention sessions allow your child's education to be tailored to an even finer detail.

Homework in Ranworth

Your child has a homework diary in their book bag. Homework is now set slightly differently. We would like you to continue your daily reading with your child, practice their timetables and weekly spellings given. There will be six tasks to carry out over this half term, these tasks can be carried out in any order, but at least one task should be carried out per week and handed in on a Monday. A separate sheet will be given to your child giving details of the six challenges for this half term.

Books and Book Bags

Thank you to the majority of you who are reading with your children and remembering to write a short sentence or two in their homework diaries. Please can I continue to encourage your child to write their own comment on the book they have read. Also, thank you for sending their book bags and homework diaries back in with them **every day!** Please can we remember to keep this up, it is very important that your child is reading every day. Please can I also ask if you can check your bookshelves for any schoolbooks that may have been misplaced?

Uniform & belongings

Please can you make sure your child's uniform and belongings are named (Please check to see if it's been washed out if written in). This gives us all the opportunity to find and return them ASAP.

P.E Kits

Our PE days are Monday and Wednesday's. Please can your child to leave their kit in school **all week**, as they may need to do PE at different times to their usual lesson. Your child is welcome to bring in a Black tracksuit to keep them warm for outside PE sessions, for this half term. Many of the children seem so much taller and had a real growth spurt, so can you please make sure your child's trainers still fit them.

P.S.H.E (Personal, social, health and economic education)

The development of your child's social skills is extremely important to their happiness and learning and we work hard together as a class and on a one to one basis to overcome problems and develop their ability to solve them in the future. Developing such skills aids their ability to cooperate and get along with each other and how to deal with any fallings out. Independency is vital within the class and I continue to improve this by trying to develop a Growth mindset (please chat with me if you need an explanation of this theory) within every child. I hope I can rely on your continued support.

I hope you have found this information of use and would like to reiterate the point that if you have any concerns at all please speak to me so we can arrange a time to meet – We are more than happy to help.

Warm regards

Mr Stewart Spooner & the Year 4 &5 Team