



Class Newsletter

Swans - Autumn Term 1, 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to what is going to be a very busy and exciting first half term of the new school year. I hope everyone is well and feeling positive in these uncertain times, and are reassured that the measures the school has put in place will keep your children safe.

Our main topic this half term is 'World War II—the Battle for Britain' and we will be immersing ourselves in the lives of school children who lived through the war and the Blitz.

In our English lessons we will be encouraging the class to put themselves in the shoes of an evacuee, being moved out of the city to find safety from the Blitz, and writing a diary of their experiences. We will read passages from the books 'Goodnight Mr Tom' and 'Carrie's War' and will focus on how it must have felt for children of their own age to be sent away to live with another family. We will also read some of the war poetry of the time and write our own poems to try and recreate the atmosphere of battle.

In History we will be studying more about evacuees as well as rationing, the Women's Land Army and the reasons for the Nazis' push to build an empire.

Our P.E. this half term will be Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Please ensure that your child has an outdoor and indoor P.E. kit in school on these days. We will take advantage of the last of the warmer weather this half term by getting outside as much as possible for some football and tennis.

Year 5 and 6 children are expected to **read at home daily**, for around 20 minutes, recording this in their Planner, and parents should please sign once a week to confirm this. I would really appreciate your support with reinforcing this most beneficial habit - which helps with so many aspects of our learning.

Pupils will also complete a weekly Maths and English/Topic task for their Home Learning. Homework times for Swans will be as follows – Maths will be given on a Tuesday, and needs to be in the same Thursday. English/Topic will be given on a Friday and needs to be in the following Tuesday. Please ensure your child keeps to these times so that I can keep on top of the marking! Spellings will be tested on a Friday and a new list given out the same day.

A quick reminder: healthy snacks should be provided from home each day. I am really excited to welcome back both the new Year 5s and the returning Year 6s and am looking forward to all the fun and great learning we will enjoy together.

Mr Sharp

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*Values for Life: Compassion, Courage, Friendship, Trust, Truthfulness, Hope, Peace,
Thankfulness, Creativity, Forgiveness, Humility and Justice.*