



# Autumn Term in Upper School



Our Autumn term started with three weeks based around Oliver Jeffers' 'Here We Are' book. This was to get the children used to school life again as they completed a range of activities and lessons from each different curriculum area.

Our topic for the rest of the Autumn term is World War 2. We launched the topic with a surprising press conference centered around the outbreak of war. We aim to incorporate our topic into all areas of the curriculum. A breakdown of what the children will study in each area is below:

**ENGLISH:** We are currently reading 'Goodnight Mr Tom' by Michelle Magorian which is a fantastic story about a young boy who is evacuated from his city life and bonds, after some time, with the new man he is sent to live with in the countryside. The children have written a journalistic recount about the outbreak of war and have written a series of letters in different roles. Later in the term, the children will write a story based on a flashback that Willie (the boy from the book) has during his time in the countryside.

**MATHS:** Place value and calculations are our main focus for this term. We will be ensuring that the children can use both mental and written calculation methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. They will apply these skills to fluency and problem-solving SAT style questions.

**SCIENCE:** The children have made biomes of the climate that we live in and have looked at the differences between a multitude of biomes. We are currently learning about the need for healthy eating and exercise and the effect that has on our organs and bodies. We will also be looking at the circulatory system more in depth too.

**RE:** Gospel is our focus for this term and the children will be given the chance to explore the Bible and how the Gospel has an impact on Christians' lives. The children will also learn about Incarnation/Christmas.

**PSHE:** We are focussing on relationships for this term, drawing conclusions from Willie's relationship with his mum and new family as well as drawing on their own experiences.

**GEOGRAPHY:** The children will be locating different countries, continents and oceans in the world.

**ART:** The children will be trying out different painting techniques including spray painting. The children will also study different artists and create art in their respective styles.

**MUSIC:** Children will be using our Charanga programme to delve into the song 'Happy' by Pharrell Williams. They will look at how the tempo, beat and rhythm can create different moods and types of music.

**PE:** PE will be led outdoors (including in drizzles of rain) as much as possible as per regulations that we are currently living under. Year 6 will start with a unit on hockey and Year 5 with a unit on football.

**FOREST SCHOOL:** This year the children will have 2 hours of Forest School a week in which they will complete an outdoor activity that helps them with classroom work or to complete tasks that would enable them to survive in the wilderness like building a shelter or making a fire.

**COMPUTING:** We aim to use IT skills as much as possible within the class. In Year 5, the children will learn how to build databases and create a game. In Year 6, they will look at what a network is and how they work and also how to create a 'text adventure' on Purple Mash.

**HOMEWORK:** Homework continues to be set on a Friday and is collected in on a Thursday. All children must send their homework in by Thursdays. Homework, this year, will be online via *Google Classroom*. Please speak to your child's class teacher should you have any issues logging on.

I hope you agree that we have got a fun and action-packed term ahead! Thank you, as always, for your support in your child's learning. Please continue to read with them at home and also practise times tables.

Many thanks

The Upper School Team