

Welcome to the start of a new school year.

During the term we will be finding out about children in World War 2. On Thursday September 28th we will be visiting RAF Hendon to see the exhibits and take part in a workshop about The Home Front / The Blitz. Here are some more details about the curriculum for this term:

Literacy In guided reading the children will focus on the language choices authors make. We will be covering regular work on spelling and grammar in order to build up the quality and variety of written sentences. The children will complete short and extended pieces of writing, both fiction and non-fiction. Some of their writing will be based on our topic.

Maths We will begin with number work on place value, rounding and ordering, before moving on to the 4 number operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Later, we will be learning about fractions and decimals. The children will also study shape and statistics (data handling). Work over the term will include mental maths as well as informal and formal written methods.

R.E. Will be with Mrs Charter and will focus on Christianity and Islam, covering the festivals of Eid and later, Christmas. Our **PSHE** themes are New Beginnings for this half term, followed by Getting on and Falling Out from November onwards.

Music This year, Hertfordshire Music Service will be providing weekly cornet lessons.

History We will be studying the changes children faced in wartime such as evacuation, rationing and air raids. This topic often presents an opportunity for children to bring in artefacts from home. If you do have any items such as photographs, ration books etc., we would be delighted to borrow them. In the past, we have also interviewed or sent questionnaires to any family and friends who have war reminiscences. If you know of anyone who could help with this, please let me know. We will include **Art and DT** activities in this topic.

Science We will study two science topics. We will be finding out about light and shadows as well as working on simple electrical circuits, conductors and insulators.

P.E. Swimming is every Thursday afternoon and Year 4 children will be going first. Please make sure that your child has a full kit each week, including a swimming hat and if they use them, goggles. The children also have PE on Wednesday with a sports coach and Mrs Brignall will be doing invasion games on Monday afternoons. They will need PE kit every week, including the correct footwear and extra layers of clothing when the weather gets colder.

French The children will initially learn about greetings, the alphabet, colours, numbers, days and months and birthdays etc...

IT is an important part of our teaching and learning and the children will work with Ms Allen on word processing, keyboard skills and e safety.

Some reminders

Regular reading, both independently and to an adult is **essential** for good progress in Key Stage 2, **even for fluent readers**. It is important that the children discuss the books they are reading with you. Please sign your child's reading record when they have read to you. We will check reading records and reward children accordingly for really good, consistent reading homework. For children who are not yet fully fluent, frequent reading at home will help them catch up with their peers - little and often is good. Although we can support some children occasionally in school, reading **regularly** at home can boost their ability hugely.

Weekly maths and English homework will be set towards the end of each week and occasionally some topic research.

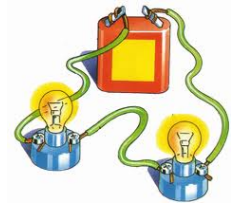
As it isn't possible to let children leave lessons to obtain a drink, it is important that they bring water in to drink during lessons, preferably in a **named plastic flask**. This helps concentration in class, especially for children who only drink a small amount at lunchtime. They are welcome to refill bottles at break times from the water fountain.

We have provided the children with stationery to use in class, including pencils, rulers, coloured pencils and pens. When they prove that they can regularly form neat and carefully joined handwriting, children are allowed to use pen.

We would love to share with you some of the work we are doing in our class assembly in November.

Mrs Cotton and Mrs Brignall.

Class 3



**Autumn
Term
2017**

