

Dragonflies Class



Curriculum Information

Autumn Term 2025

Inside this booklet you will find details about your child's learning this half term including key vocabulary that they will come across.

As Readers we continue to explore age-appropriate texts in our Reading Rangers groups. In my group, we will read *Goodnight Mr. Tom*, a classic novel following the fortunes of a young evacuee from London during World War Two. Children will learn how to interpret and scribe answers to different question types. Modelled and shared reading will encourage children to read with expression out loud, using punctuation to read fluently with their audience in mind. Supporting your child with reading at home will also help to maximise progress.



Key vocabulary: inference, summarise, impression, predict, opinion, retrieval, evidence

As Writers we will be exploring traditional adventure stories, such as *The Famous Five* and *Adventure at Sandy Cove* by Pie Corbett, as models for the genre. After becoming familiar with the text, children will learn and rehearse key grammar tools, in order to first innovate a tale based on the model text, before more independently inventing their own adventure stories.



Key vocabulary: adverbial, description, mood, atmosphere, setting, paragraphs, alliteration, simile

As Mathematicians, we will revisit place value and the four operations of arithmetic. The children will read, write, order and compare numbers to at least 1 000 000 in years 5 and 6 and 10,000 in Year 4. They will learn to count forwards or backwards with positive and negative whole numbers. They will round numbers to different places and will learn about special numbers such as factors, multiples, primes, squares and cubes, together with useful strategies for mental calculations. We will then extend our knowledge of written addition, subtraction, multiplication and division and use them to solve multi-step word problems.



Key vocabulary: millions, thousands, hundreds, tens, ones, round, powers, partition, bar model, integer, multiple, factor, Venn diagram, primes, squares, cubes

As Scientists, Dragonflies will be learning about light. We will find a way to prove that light travels in straight lines and explain how this helps us to see things. We will conduct investigations with shadows and use mirrors and water to reflect and refract light beams. Finally, we will study the relationship between light and colour. In the second half term, our topic is electricity. The class will build and test series and parallel circuits and learn the terminology for all the components.



Key vocabulary: beam, reflect, refract, scatter, light source, radiate, transparent, translucent, opaque current, voltage, series, parallel, switch, cell, bulb, motor, buzzer, battery

As Theologians, our big question is “What is truth? Is seeing believing?”. Children will explore how both religious leaders and philosophers have developed their ideas about what is real and what is not; what is opinion and what beliefs can be justified, if based on evidence or experience. Is faith solely ‘blind’ or is it based on other criteria too?

Key vocabulary: epistemology, theory, belief, validity, faith, experience, justify



As Artists, our unit is called 'Capturing Conflict'. We will look at works by Paul Nash, John Copely, John Sargent, Picasso and Goya to explore how art has been used to both depict heroes and highlight the tragedy of war. Pupils will complete studies of 'Gassed' by Sargent, before using watercolours and silhouettes to create a montage of a battlefield.



As Designers, we will be looking at a range of textiles employed for different purposes in the design world, before finger-knitting a scarf for a teddy bear.

Key vocabulary: conflict, iconic, entrancing, glorify, heroism, patriotic, disillusionment, destructive, textile, fabric, loop, stitch, cast on, bind off, yarn

As Philanthropists, Dragonflies will be learning to communicate what their dreams, goals and ambitions for the near and far future are. They will learn about feelings experienced when dreams do not come true and reflect on positive experiences to counteract disappointment. Children will learn how to set reasonable and achievable goals and how to break these into manageable steps.



Key vocabulary: resilience, motivation, determination, commitment, disappointment, goals, plans

As Historians, we will be learning about World War Two, with a particular focus on how the war impacted women and children in Britain. We will see how the war began and how life changed at home for millions of children, who were evacuated to the countryside. We will look at rationing and other activities done at home to help the war effort, as well as the changing roles of women during and after the war.

Key vocabulary: allies, axis powers, rationing, Anderson shelter, evacuee, host, Nazi party



As Explorers, we will turn to Europe, to learn about its human and cultural features as well as physical characteristics and landmarks. Children use 4 and 6 figure references to locate European cities as well as create graphs to compare climates and rainfall across the continent. They will use Geographical vocabulary to describe locations and features and how they are connected.



Key vocabulary: Europe, continent, Eurasia, demographic, population, currency, human and physical features

As Technicians, we will begin the year by revising our understanding of online safety, especially around our online identities. We will learn how identities can be copied, altered or modified but also how to make responsible choices about our online identity.



Key vocabulary: cropping, modify, delete, alter, copy, avatar, platform, social media

This overview is intended to give you a flavour of what we will be studying this term. If you recognise any of this 'good learning' at home, please feel free to write it on a post it note and send it into school so that we can add it to your child's learning. This will help us to recognise the next steps in learning that your child needs to take.

Remember – you should be reading, practising your spellings and your times tables as frequently as you can every week.



Spelling

Spellings to learn each week will be given practised in class, then given out on Wednesdays to complete and rehearse for a spelling test each Monday

Maths

One piece of maths homework also goes out on a Wednesday, to consolidate what we have been doing in class. This should be returned by the following Monday.

Times Tables

Times tables are a foundation for so much of our Maths learning and we will do lots in class but please practise yourself via Tackling Times Tables at least 4 times a week.



Also, practise with songs, chanting, write them down, get tested by a friend or family member...

Reading

Read aloud with an adult at least 5 times a week, write this in your Reading Record book and get your adult to sign it. Bring these in each day as we will also have the opportunity to read in class.



Of course, you can read independently in addition to this!

Optional Topic Homework

Please share and show off any of your extra efforts on Class Dojo!

English Imagine that you are an evacuee, write a letter home about your experiences - you could mention what the family is like that you are staying with and describe your new surroundings Research what life was like in the blitz and write the beginning of a story to describe what it was like for a child at that time. Write a poem to commemorate the soldiers who died.	Science Investigate materials that would have been best used in a blackout. To do this, you could turn the light on in your room and find different materials to cover your window one at a time. Then go outside to inspect and record how well each material blocks out the light. Design and test out a parachute (using a toy or weight) that would allow a member of the RAF to land safely. .	Art / DT Make a model of an air raid shelter Research a recipe from WWII and have a go at making it with an adult Create your own ration book and research how much food each person was entitled to per week Research and create your own propaganda poster used to motivate the people of Great Britain during WWII
Maths Make a timeline depicting the main events that happened in WWII (you could add a brief description of each event) Create a graph to show the number of casualties suffered by each country.	History Write a war-time song to boost morale. Research and play outdoor games which would have been played by children in the 1940s	 Make do and mend - create a toy using only recycled materials.