



Children in World War II

Charterville Class

Year 4 Spring Term 2025

Children will learn when and why World War II began and find out about the key individuals and countries involved.



English

We will work on spelling rules and strategies and continue to learn the words stipulated in the National Curriculum spelling lists for Year 3&4.

All children will be involved in daily Shared/Guided Reading sessions as well as reading as a class every day. Our class text will be 'Friend or Foe' by Michael Morpurgo and 'Goodnight Mister Tom' by Michelle Magorian.

During English lessons, we will be focussing on the text 'The Lion and the Unicorn' by Shirley Hughes. The children will use this text to create setting descriptions, storyboards and re-write the story with an alternative ending. We will also be using the book 'Bombs and Blackberries: A World War II Play' by Julia Donaldson to create character descriptions.

From the research we have completed in topic lessons, we will create information posters, a newspaper report, evacuation diary, advertisements and letters home. Children will also continue to develop their handwriting.

Maths

Year 4 will cover the following topics:

Multiplication and Division: Recall and use multiplication and division facts up to 12×12 , recognise and use factor pairs, multiply 2 & 3 digit numbers by a 1 digit, solve problems.

Fractions: Recognise common families of equivalent fractions, count up and down in hundredths and tenths, add and subtract fractions.

Measurement: Measure, compare lengths. Finding the area and perimeter of shapes.

PSHE

Our values this term are **Compassion** and **Respect**.

As historians, they will discover what it was like for people on the home front and how they contributed to the war effort as well as children who were evacuated. They will also learn all about the roles and responsibilities of the men and women who served in the British armed forces; explore the significance of the Battle of Britain; participate in wartime songs, dances and games and develop a sense of awareness and appreciation when learning about different commemorative events.

As Musicians, pupils will develop an understanding of the styles of music civilians and soldiers were listening to during the 1930's and 1940's including Vera Lynn, George Formby, Glenn Miller, Duke Ellington etc. They will also learn to sing a fun Glenn Miller inspired song. By the end of the topic pupils will have a good understanding of the music of World War 2, the instruments that make a jazz/big band, the role music and songs played during the war, what swing music is and how to improvise using the pentatonic scale.

Science

States of Matter

- Compare and group materials together, according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases.
- Observe that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled.
- Identify the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle and associate the rate of evaporation with temperature.

Children will be able to sort materials into solids, liquids and gases, explain that heating causes melting, and cooling causes freezing, identify the melting and freezing point of water and describe evaporation and condensation using practical examples. Children will take part in a variety of STEM activities. Children will complete a simple fair test and make predictions, record their findings and present them in a variety of ways.

Art and DT: Children will develop their printing and painting skills further. They will look at the importance of propaganda posters during World War II.

In DT, they will design and make a simple torch. The children will consider who will use it and the conditions under which it might be used. Also they will think about how the torch can be controlled by designing and making a switch.

RE

This term our key questions are;
-- Is a Holy Journey necessary for believers?
- Should believers give things up?

PE

Our PE day will be Thursday. We will be doing movement and gymnastics. Charterville will be swimming on a Tuesday.

Computing

Our key question this term is;

- Can we use technology to edit images?

Spanish

We will be recapping our basic vocabulary. We will also be learning numbers 1 to 10 and colours.