



# Conflict and Courage



## Kindness, Gratitude and Respect

This half term, we will be focusing on the values of kindness, gratitude and respect. We encourage the children to show kindness through their words and actions, to appreciate the people and positive experiences in their lives, and to treat others with respect. By living out these values each day, we continue to build a happy, caring and supportive school community where everyone can thrive.

### Rationale:

This half term's learning experience explores the Second World War. Children will develop their understanding of key events and the impact the war had on different groups, including evacuees, soldiers, women and other civilians. There will be a strong emphasis on local history, helping the children to understand how World War Two affected the South West of England and their local area. Using a range of sources, discussions and activities, the children will develop key historical skills, such as interpreting evidence, asking questions and understanding different perspectives. The learning experiences will help children to understand that the impact of the war was complex and different for everyone, shaped by factors such as location, role and circumstance.

Start Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2026

End Date: 21<sup>st</sup> July 2026

### Hook: Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

For our hook day, we will be joined by Mrs King, the author of *Cake for the Gestapo* and *Lobster Blues*, two books inspired by the occupation of the Channel Islands during World War II. The children will take part in a range of immersive and engaging activities designed to deepen their understanding of wartime life and the experiences of ordinary people during this period in history. If you would like to learn more about Mrs King, her website is full of fascinating information: <http://www.jacquelineking.co.uk>

### Computing:

This half term, Bramley children will use a range of techniques to create a stop-frame animation. They will apply those skills to create a story-based animation linked to WWII. Russet children will learn how to create short videos and explore the meaning of key vocabulary. They will develop the skills of capturing, editing, and manipulating video. At the end of both units of work, the children will have the opportunity to reflect on and evaluate their outcomes and the skills they have learnt.

### Take home task: Due 13<sup>th</sup> July 2026

Your children must choose at least one of the following activities:

- Make a 3D model linked to WWII.
- Bake a simple wartime recipe using rationing-style ingredients and reflect on how it compares to food today.
- Interview or research someone from the local area and present information about their wartime experiences.
- Create a WWII propaganda poster.
- Write a diary entry in role as an evacuee.

### How you can support your child at home:

- Find out about wartime experiences within your family or local area.
- Learn tables facts up to 12 x 12 and associated division facts
- Ensure that your child reads at least 5 times a week and has the opportunity to discuss their reading with you. Please could you ensure this is recorded in their reading record.
- Help them to learn their weekly spellings and ensure they understand their meaning.
- Support children in completing their Maths and English homework, encouraging independence where possible.

### English

This term, Bramley Class children will read the World War Two play - *Bombs and Blackberries* by Julia Donaldson. Developing their oracy skills, the children will have the opportunity to use intonation and pace whilst acting out the play scenes in small groups. This will lead to narrative story writing where the children will plan and write a short story with a clear beginning, middle, and ending, using characters, setting and dialogue. Later in the term, the children will study a second text, *Operation Banana* by Tony Bradman. This unit will culminate in persuasive letter writing, during which pupils will analyse and apply a range of persuasive techniques. They will further develop their writing skills by confidently incorporating fronted adverbials, expanded noun phrases and well-structured paragraphs to enhance clarity, cohesion and impact.

Russet Class will be exploring the text *Goodnight Mister Tom* by Michelle Magorian. The children will develop their descriptive, narrative and spoken language skills by writing setting descriptions, dialogue, narratives and a political speech linked to World War Two. They will also use drama techniques to explore character and deepen their understanding of the experiences of evacuees during the war. Following this, the children will explore wartime poetry and develop their oracy skills by reciting them.

### Maths

In Bramley Class the children will consolidate and extend their understanding of fractions and decimals, including recognising and identifying the value of tenths and hundredths. Year Four pupils will further develop their knowledge by rounding decimals with one decimal place to the nearest whole number. In geometry, pupils will review the properties of 2D and 3D shapes and investigate symmetrical patterns, developing their ability to identify lines of symmetry and create symmetrical designs. They will also deepen their understanding of angles by comparing, ordering and describing angles, using appropriate mathematical vocabulary to explain their reasoning. Throughout the term, children will be encouraged to apply their mathematical knowledge confidently across a variety of contexts, strengthening both their fluency and problem-solving skills, using all four operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

In Russet Class, the children will be consolidating their maths knowledge by revising key concepts in preparation for Year Six or secondary school. They will work on securely and fluently using all four operations to solve a wide range of problems in different contexts, including those using fractions and decimals. The children will convert and calculate with units of measure, and apply their knowledge of statistics by collecting data and displaying it in different ways. They will also work on a range of problem-solving skills, such as working systematically, and trial and improvement.

### Science

Bramley Class will be learning about light this half term. The children will explore how we need light in order to see things, and investigate how light is reflected. They will also learn about the dangers of the sun and how to protect their eyes. Finally, the children will investigate how shadows are formed and how they change when the position of a light source changes. Years Five and Six will also be studying light, building on their prior knowledge to develop a deeper understanding of how light travels. The children will investigate how we see objects, explore reflection and refraction, and learn about the way shadows are formed. They will use scientific models and practical enquiries to explain how light behaves and apply their understanding to real-life contexts.

### History

In History, the children will explore how and why people's experiences of the war varied. They will investigate the impact of the war on people in the local area, including the experiences of evacuees, rationing and daily life in wartime Britain.

### Design and Technology

In Design and Technology, the children will be exploring wartime toys before designing and making their own automaton toys. They will investigate how cams and mechanisms create movement and apply this knowledge to create a moving toy inspired by those that children may have played with during World War Two. The children will develop their designing, making and evaluating skills while using a range of tools and materials safely and creatively.