

# World War One

Year 6 Autumn Term 1

2025-26



## TOPIC OVERVIEW

Over the two terms, the children will be studying the History topic of World War One, exploring its direct and indirect impact on different sections of society as well as animals. This will feed into their writing and reading, based on the text of 'War Horse' by Michael Morpurgo. They will get to experience what life was like in the trenches as well as understand the importance of Remembrance.

## ENGLISH

Our texts for the term are The Rabbits and War Horse

The rabbits is a gorgeous book, dealing with themes of colonisation, invasion and the environment. It will allow us to explore several writing genres, both fiction and non-fiction.

Creating a wonderful backdrop to this topic is the text of 'War Horse' by Michael Morpurgo, which beautifully illustrates the war from a horse's point of view. By studying this book linked to the history topic, the children will develop their comprehension skills, showing empathy for the characters, as well as developing their breadth of vocabulary.

## MATHS

Over the term we build on our learning from previous years:

- Exploring place value, up to 1 million, including negative numbers
- Addition and subtraction, including decimals, in context.
- Division and multiplication, including squared, prime and cubed numbers, factors and multiples.
- Calculating with fractions and finding percentages of numbers

## GEOGRAPHY

In Geography, the areas, countries and regions that feature in key battles during the first world war will be located and discussed, to show the impact of the war in Europe and the world.

## HISTORY

In History, we will explore different aspects of World War One, including the development of the war in Europe and the world, the impact it had on different sections of society and animals, and its legacy.

We will get to experience what life was like in the trenches as well as understand the importance of Remembrance and the Christmas Truce.

## SCIENCE

In the first half of this term we will develop our understanding of electricity, by looking at its history and progression over time, before investigating and representing circuits.

In the second half of the term, we explore how light travels, and how shadows are formed and vary in length.

## ART & DT

In Art, we will develop our drawing and sketching techniques, using a range of materials, to create life-like productions of a War Horse.

In DT, by combining different fabric shapes, we will develop our design, making and evaluating skills to create a Christmas Advent calendar.

## PSHE

To start the year, we will create and commit to a 'Learning Charter.' By exploring 'Being Me in My World,' we will observe the year ahead, and how we play an important part of being a citizen of our school, town and country. We will consider what it means to be a year 6 child at The Elms and what these responsibilities, expectations and rewards are. Following this, we will celebrate differences in the world we live in.

## COMPUTING

By following the Teach Computing curriculum, we will begin to understand how computers link to a network and how these networks allow different computers to share information. Alongside this, we will develop our awareness of how to remain safe and secure online, using the National Online Safety programme.

## MUSIC

Using the music programme, 'Charanga', we will explore neo/pop soul and jazz. By understanding the key musical features and listening to a range of songs, we can perform, compose and record our own music.

Weekly singing assemblies will enhance and embellish our knowledge of pop music, enabling us to sing in a range of styles, pitches and rhythms.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

In the first part of the term, our outdoor PE sessions will focus on key personal skills that are transferrable to a range of different sports.

In the indoor sessions, we will have the opportunity to learn Yoga. We will develop our flexibility and strength through a range of yoga based activities.

## FRENCH

In French during this term, we will practice our reading, writing, speaking and listening skills, including:

- Questions and answer introductory meetings including self, family, pets & hobbies. Written and spoken.
- Numbers 1-100
- Using plurals with opinion verbs
- Forming the negative

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

In RE, we will explore beliefs and practices in Islam, and understand some of the ways Muslims show commitment to God and compare Islamic beliefs and practices with those from other religions.