



# Donington on Bain Primary School

*Inspire, Enrich, Achieve*

## Class 4 Autumn Term 1 Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you have had a wonderful summer break and are looking forward to the new school year. I would like to welcome the Year 5's to Class 4, and the new Year 6's to what promises to be an exciting and successful year. The Year 5 and 6 team this year are myself, Mrs Money, Mrs Bertie-Smith and Mrs Smith. All adults will be working with all the children at various times over the week to provide the best learning opportunities possible. Please find below the curriculum and home learning expectations for this term.

Our Topic this term is **BRITAIN AT WAR**.

Our **Geography** skills will be focused on understanding which countries were involved in the First and Second World War, and how the key physical and human geography of the countries involved helped or hindered progress.

In **History**, we will be looking at significant people involved in WW2 and how their stories have influenced history, including Hitler, Ann Frank and Winston Churchill. We will be looking at key events that shaped the war, and how these events have influenced modern day Britain.

In **Science** we are studying light theory. We will be investigating the way light behaves, how we see light and colour and investigating shadows, reflection and refraction.

In **Art and DT**, we will be looking at the theory of distortion and abstraction in art, exploring how to create a 2D image from a 3D impression. We will also be exploring the concept of "Make Do and Mend." We will be looking at key wartime recipes, including mock banana cake, exploring textiles and different stitching types and how to mend and recycle with different fabrics.

In **Music**, we will be exploring looping and remixing, and using our bodies and digital sounds to create repeated rhythms and melodies.

In **Computing**, we will be learning about how we can use programming to create different sounds and melodies. We will also be developing our online safety awareness.

In **French**, we will be developing conversational skills, introducing and talking about ourselves and general greetings. We will also be studying the language of transport and how to travel.

In **RE**, we will be looking at the similarities and differences between Christianity, Hinduism and Buddhism with a focus on the meaning of life and asking the questions how and why.

**P.E.** and **Nature School** will continue to be taught by JB Sports and Mrs Smith. PE this term is net and wall skills linked to volleyball.



**Donington-on-Bain Primary School**  
Main Road, Donington-on-Bain, LOUTH LN11 9TJ  
Phone (01507) 343240  
[www.dobprimary.co.uk](http://www.dobprimary.co.uk)



**PE and Nature School days are Mondays and Tuesdays.  
Children should come to school in their school PE kits on both days  
and dressed appropriately for the weather.**

(Our Nature School starts next week and is a THURSDAY for the first week only)

**English** – our stimulus for learning is World War 2. We will be exploring a wide range of texts and extracts including War Monkey, Goodnight Mr Tom, Letters from the Lighthouse and Narnia to enable us to write diary entries, a portal story and descriptions around various wartime scenes and scenarios. We will also be using Talk for Writing's Zelda Claw to develop our short burst writing skills where we can expand our use of powerful vocabulary and understand how punctuation creates a specific effect within our writing.

**Maths** – our focus this term is number. We will understand how important understanding place value is and how this is vital to all areas of Maths. We will reinforce our addition and subtraction skills and refine long and short division and multiplication methods. In line with National Curriculum expectations, all children should now know their times tables up to 12 x 12 so we will be ensuring this knowledge is strong. Any short bursts of daily practice you can do to support your child in this skill will be greatly beneficial.

### Home Learning

Please support your child through the following activities at home:

- **Regular reading at home** – ideally, short daily sessions, and a minimum of three times every week. Please record all reading in the reading record provided. Children will be heard read by an adult in school at least weekly and this will also be acknowledged in their reading record.
- **Regular spelling practice** – spelling lists will be given for children to bring home, and children should be encouraged to practise their spellings at home, including all the Key Stage 2 statutory and common exception words. Regular informal assessments of spellings will be carried out.
- **Regular times tables practice** – short, frequent sessions have been proven to be the best way to learn and remember known number facts. A TTRS (Times Tables Rock Stars) login will be given to all children if they do not already have one. Regular tournaments will be scheduled to encourage participation and challenges to be the best rock star!
- **A long-term homework project** will also be set each term. Children should complete this as part of their homework and bring it to school towards the end of the term to present in class.

### Homework Project Term 1:

A big part of life in Britain during World War 2 was the “Make Do and Mend” initiative where people were asked to recycle, reuse and mend as much as possible whilst resources were in short supply. Using things you already have in your home, recreate a shoebox diorama or model showcasing life at home during WW2. You might want to make a model garden with an Anderson Shelter and vegetable patch, create a wartime recipe and do some cooking, or design a child's bedroom and make models of some of the toys that children may have had. Let your creativity run wild and come and share your model with us later in the term. Projects are due in week beginning the **20<sup>th</sup> October**.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at school. We are looking forward to working with you this year.

Kind regards

Mrs Gascoigne, Mrs Money, Mrs Bertie-Smith and Mrs Smith



**Donington-on-Bain Primary School**  
Main Road, Donington-on-Bain, LOUTH LN11 9TJ  
Phone (01507) 343240  
[www.dobprimary.co.uk](http://www.dobprimary.co.uk)

