

Year 5 Newsletter



Aldwyn Primary School - Every Child a Success
Summer Term 1

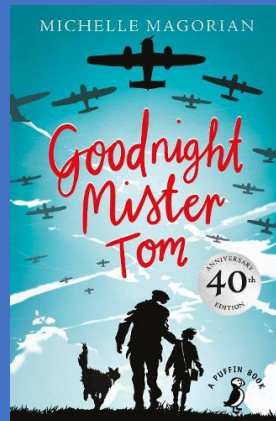
Monday 13th April 2026
to
Friday 22rd May 2026



Theme – Keep Calm and Carry On



What will we read this half term?



Goodnight Mister Tom by Michelle Magorian

Goodnight Mister Tom by Michelle Magorian is about a young boy named William Beech, who is evacuated from London during World War II to the countryside. He is sent to live with a grumpy, reclusive man named Mister Tom. At first, William is scared and lonely, but over time, he forms a deep bond with Mister Tom, who becomes a father figure to him. As William starts to heal from the trauma of his past, he grows stronger and more confident. The story is about friendship, love, and the impact of kindness.

What will we learn this half term?

Please note that all of the Curriculum Overviews for each subject can be found on the school website. These contain detailed outlines of the coverage and rationales for teaching. Please take time to read them.

English

Our English unit will provide opportunities for reading and writing using the story Goodnight Mister Tom. These include writing a first-person account of evacuation, using a photograph as a stimulus for a written response, using a range of emotive language and extracting information about the characters from the text.

We will also complete regular Guided Reading lessons based on this book.

Our SPaG objectives include; using dialogue to advance the action, adverbial complex sentences and using present perfect tense.

Pupils will explore the Big Debate question: Did the war help children to have a better life? They will develop their speaking and listening skills by sharing ideas, presenting evidence, and considering different viewpoints.

We will continue with our oracy skills through the poem The Tale of Custard the Dragon by Ogden Nash. This will include learning the poem by heart and performing it aloud, helping students to build confidence, expression and an appreciation of rhythm and storytelling in poetry.

Maths

In Maths, we will be working on the following areas:

- find the perimeter of a rectangle and polygon
- find the area of a rectangle and compound shape
- classifying, estimating and measuring angles up to 180°
- calculating angles around a point and on a straight line
- regular and irregular polygons
- 3D shapes
- reading, plotting and problem solving with co-ordinates
- translation, reflection and lines of symmetry

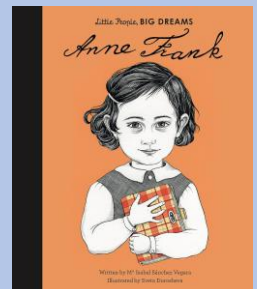


We will also be revising our multiplication and division facts, using the Times Table Rockstars website, which can also be accessed at home. Children have been given their login details and have been shown how to access the resources from home.

Research – History

This half-term, we will be discussing the topic: What was the impact of WW2 on British people? The children will be able to identify the causes of World War 2, describe how children may have felt when evacuated and describe the impact WW2 had on women's lives. In addition to this, they will make inferences and deductions about a photograph and evaluate the accuracy and reliability of sources.

As part of our work on WW2, we will be sharing the story of Anne Frank and her famous diary, describing her belief in people's goodness and her hopes for peace.



Music

Our music learning is focused around the song: 'Dancing in the Street'. This is an intergrated approach to music where games, the dimensions of music, singing and playing instruments are all linked. As well as learning to sing, play, improvise and compose with this song, children will listen and appraise other Motown songs.



PSHE

Our whole-school PSHE theme is Relationships. The children will be considering characteristics of themselves and attributes of personal qualities and self esteem. The children will be discussing how to solve friendship problems, showing respect and what makes a good friendship.

Design and Technology

In this unit, the children will be able to:

- describe the process of carrot production.
- research a traditional recipe and make changes to it.
- add nutritional value to a recipe by selecting ingredients.
- prepare and cook a version of a popular WW2 dish.

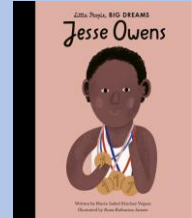
Computing

In Computing, Year 5 will begin by completing their space podcasts. They will then move on to creating a new podcast linked to their WWII topic, using Canva and Google AI tools. This will give pupils the opportunity to develop their research, writing and digital production skills in an engaging and creative way.

PE

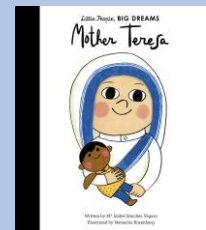
This term children will be developing their athletics skills. In this unit, they will be learning to consolidate their sprinting skills (running a personal best) and evaluating their performance. Moreover, the pupils will be introduced to hurdles, shotput and relay events. As part of our work in Athletics, we will be sharing the story of Jesse Owens: the historic and barrier-breaking track and field star, who went on to challenge racism on the world stage at the 1936 Berlin Olympics.

Year 5 will be developing their cricket skills in PE this term. They will refine their batting and bowling techniques, as well as their batting and bowling tactics. They will also refine their fielding skills, including stopping, catching and throwing. Pupils will combine bowling and fielding to create and apply tactics in game situations, and will be introduced to umpiring and scoring.



RE

In RE, Year 5 will be learning about the story of the Exodus, exploring key events and what they mean for Christians. They will make links between Bible texts and beliefs about how God helps people in difficult times, and how this influences behaviour. Pupils will also learn about the Ten Commandments and why they remain important to believers today. They will also read about Mother Teresa, learning about her life and how she put her beliefs into action by helping others.



French

'Quel temps fait-ils?' In this unit, pupil will learn how to:

- Repeat and recognise the vocabulary for weather in French.
- Ask and say what the weather is like today.
- Create a French weather map.
- Describe the weather in different regions of France using a weather map with symbols.

Homework

Your children will continue to receive a piece of English and Maths homework every week and are expected to practise for their weekly times tables/division tests. We ask that you encourage your children to read at home and to please check and sign their times-tables and Reading Record books weekly.

We also recommend using the Times Table Rockstars website, which can be accessed at home, to support children in their learning of multiplication and division facts.



We really look forward to the half term ahead. If you need to get in touch, please write a note in your child's Reading Record or speak to a member of staff on the classroom door who will be happy to answer any queries.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Miss Coles, Miss Hind, Mrs. Newton, Miss Ravenscroft & Mrs..Corbett