

Topic overview – Year 4/5/6 2026-2027

	Autumn 2
Topic name	**War – what is it good for?**
Big question	What IS war good for?
Memorable experience	Visit to the Arnhem memorial, visit from the paratroopers (10th battalion – Somerby) Village memorial sign hunt Make do and mend Christmas Day – wartime Christmas
Outdoor learning	Study of the village now and then, recognising homes where paratroopers were based.
Linked books	The Emergency Zoo Letters From the Lighthouse The Lion and the Unicorn
Reading aims	Recognise themes in fiction Listen and respond to a range of books Read for a range of purposes Draw inferences, predict and summarise Discuss how a writer uses language and identify the meaning of words in context
Writing aims	Letter writing and narrative based on 'Beyond the Lines' (Literacy Shed) and class novel - Punctuate dialogue accurately - Use possessive apostrophes - Create settings, characters and plot - Use fronted adverbials and punctuate correctly - Use a wider range of conjunctions including when, if, because, although Reports and Explanations based on History and Science - Organise paragraphs around a theme - Use organisational devices e.g. subheadings, diagrams
Speaking & listening aims	Ask relevant questions to further their understanding Listen to and respond to others Speak audibly and fluently.
Maths aims	Multiplication and Division (4 weeks) Fractions, decimals and Percentages (3 weeks)
Science aims	Identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system - Know the function of the heart, blood vessels and blood - Know the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on health - Know the ways in which nutrients and water are transported in animals, including humans
History aims	World War 2 - Compare WW2 to other wars in history, explaining things that have changed and things that have remained the same. - Draw timelines that outline the development of specific features. - Learn about WW2 and how it was a significant turning point in history. - Learn about the influence the war has on us today (specifically for 10th Battalion from Somerby, and people locally who have fled from conflict in recent times). - Learn to contrast informed responses to relevant historical information. - Learn how to give more than one reason for a historical argument.
Geography aims	History focus this term. Some local geography / field work following maps to explore Somerby.
DT aims	Design and build a war shelter exploring different useful materials Children will learn to: -measure, cut and assemble with accuracy (technical knowledge) -create a final design of their product based on initial ideas and revisions (design) -make ongoing sketches with annotations and constraints (design) -understand designs must meet a range of criteria (design) -think ahead about the order of their work (design) -measure accurately to build effective structures (make) -consider which materials are fit for purpose and join them accurately (make) -increasingly model their ideas before making (make) -strengthen joins and corners in a variety of ways (make) -think about their ideas as they progress and make changes to improve their work (evaluate)

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	-assess how well their product works in relation to the design criteria and the intended purpose (evaluate) -carry out tests before making improvements (evaluate)
Art and design aims	DT focus this term - Art and craft for Christmas (decorations day, Christmas cards) - Take One Picture week
Music aims	KS2 – children will play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression - children will listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory.
Computing aims	**Digital Literacy (E-Safety)** To know how to create a positive online reputation. (Year 6, Lesson 3 – Creating a positive online reputation) **Computing Systems & Networks** *Year 6 Autumn 1* *Bletchley Park* Children will learn: - To understand there are many different types of secret codes. - To understand the importance of having a secure password. - To understand the importance of Bletchley Park to the World War II effort. - To research historical figures that contributed to technological advances in computing. - To research and present information about historical figures in computing.
PSHE aims	**Citizenship: How can I spend my money wisely?** Children will learn: - How to manage money by examining the different ways people pay for goods and services, including cash and cards. - To develop an understanding of budgeting, value for money and financial decision-making, - To consider how money can influence people's feelings and choices. **Anti-Bullying week – during this week, the PSHE lesson will follow the resources from the Anti-bullying Alliance.** - Understand bullying (including cyberbullying) and the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders (primarily reporting bullying to an adult) and how to get help
PE aims	**Football**: Children will learn to: - develop their attacking skills to maintain possession. - change direction and speed when attacking - recognise when to use different attacking skills - apply their attacking skills towards a goal
RE aims	Why is the Torah so important to Jewish people? Children will learn: - Identify and explain Jewish beliefs about God - Make connections between Jewish beliefs about the Torah and how Jews use and treat it. - Show how Jewish people put their beliefs into practice. - Make connections between Jewish beliefs and explain how and why they are important to Jewish people today.
Foreign language aims	Children will learn to: - broaden their vocabulary and develop their ability to understand new words that are introduced into familiar written material, including through using a dictionary - write phrases from memory, and adapt these to create new sentences, to express ideas clearly. Year 4 - Recap numbers to 31 - Ask someone's age and tell them your age - Say where you live and what is in your house Year 5/6 - Use adjectives to describe appearance and personality - Name sports and hobbies - Give some opinions about sports