

English

In English, Brecon class will take part in a number of activities. We will be reading a range of texts such as 'War Horse' and 'Carrie's War'. We will study War time poems such as those written by Wilfred Owen, and have a chance to write our own poems about the War. As a class we will study War time propaganda and use our persuasive writing skills to produce our own. Using our knowledge of WWI and II, we will produce informative news articles and radio broadcasts. We will explore the emotions of the soldiers and their families through letter writing and diary entries. In speaking and listening, we will keep up to date with current affairs across the world (including discussions about 9/11, Iraq and more recently Afghanistan), using this knowledge to take part in a class debate and respond with well structured questions. We will also look at the codes that would have been used during the war to deliver messages. We will have a go at using some of these codes, and also at creating our own secret Brecon code!

Mathematics

'Worfield at War' will require Brecon class to exercise a range of mathematical skills. Using data created during the war, we will be reading, writing, and comparing numbers up to 10 million. We will study 'the battle in the skies', using our knowledge of percentages, fractions and decimals. We will produce a number of graphs and charts, making comparisons between various sets of data. Through studying ration books of the War, we will take a look at both metric and imperial measurements, making comparisons of length and weight, as well as comparing the cost of food then and today. We will look at maps of the battlefield and use co-ordinates to plot out where each army base would be. Brecon will also complete a number of maths investigations where they will be required to draw upon a mixture of their skills.

Science, Art, Design, RE, PSHE and Computing

In science, we will look at inventions and technological advances that came about during the war, including different types of tanks, planes, battleships and vehicles. We will look at the human body and consider how soldiers might have coped with a variety of injuries.

Art will involve the chance to design and create our own propaganda posters and postcards. We will also be producing art inspired by Remembrance Day. In design we will take a closer look at 'Anderson shelters', and have the opportunity to create our own. We will also look at ration cooking in Design, and have a look at some wartime recipes, including a trench stew and a mock turkey for Christmas!

RE will involve visits to the church to look at the War memorials in closer detail, and developing a growing understanding of the opinions of others. A key event will be Remembrance Day, which will be led by Brecon class. In PSHE, our core theme is relationships, and we will be looking at feeling, emotions and valuing differences, with a particular focus on British Values today and in the war.

We will develop our computing skills, using the internet to research key events and figures during the war as well as producing our own wartime newspapers.



Worfield at War

'A study of war throughout history and the effect it had upon the people of Britain and wider areas'

Music, PE and French

In music we will take a brief look at music of the 40's and how music was used during the war, enjoying listening to songs such as 'Pack up your troubles'. We will also look at some of the dances which would have been popular at the time and have a go at marching in time like WW1 and 2 soldiers.

During our first term, PE focuses on invasion games; a key event during WW1 was the Christmas Truce football game, which we will recreate using role play and different languages to communicate. We will also look at some of the army drills soldiers would have had to undertake, and think about games the evacuees back home would have played to pass the time.

We will continue to practise our French skills this year, thinking about the challenges the soldiers would have faced in France knowing little or no French. We will prepare role plays to help us understand and empathise with them. We will also compare what life was like in France compared to Britain during the war.

History and Geography

Naturally, history will take a leading role in Brecon's Autumn topic. Whilst the bulk of our studies will examine WWI and WWII, analysing a number of other key conflicts throughout history will provide context and comparison for our work. We will begin studying the months that led up to the outbreak of WWI, attempting to highlight any potential causes. We will explore the idea that it was to be 'the war that end all wars'. We will look at life during the war, both on the front lines and back home. For our first homework project, I would like the children to delve into their own family history and find out if any of their ancestors were involved in either WW1 or WW2, at home or at war. Our investigations will focus upon living conditions and the changing roles in society. 'Make-do and Mend' is the title of our second homework task and the directions for this can be found attached.

In geography, we will investigate countries that have been involved in war and the effect it had upon their landscape, both modern and historical—this will include a mini topic entitled 'Around the world in 8 days', where we will look at the countries involved in the outbreak of WW1 in more depth. We will discuss the creation of new countries and regions comparing maps of Europe before and after the Great War. We will also give six figure grid references and use eight points of a compass to locate and follow a route around a map.

Children are encouraged to complete their own research at home, drawing upon resources from the internet and local libraries, as well as any relatives or friends who could provide extra information. First hand stories of families and friends from the war era are truly fascinating!



Worfield at War

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Mathematics and English homework

Weekly homework routines continue this term. Spellings are set every week. You can help your child to learn these by helping to ensure they understand the meaning of each word when writing sentences and by playing spelling games such as taking turns to say a letter each until the word has been spelt.

Maths and English homework tasks are set alternate weeks online using MyMaths and Compare4Kids.

Reading a range of books to you, and with you, regularly will help your child's comprehension skills and knowledge of different genres. It also helps to significantly improving writing by generating ideas for narrative and helping embed the grammar learning we do in class.

Your child might enjoy reading books by these authors:

Anthony Horowitz
Cressida Cowell
Roald Dahl
Phillip Pullman
Michael Morpurgo
C.S.Lewis

The love reading 4 kids website is also very useful.

<http://www.lovereading4kids.co.uk/>



Lower Worfield Hall in 1948

For the second piece of homework, I would like children to have a go at 'Make do and Mend'. 'Make-Do and Mend' was a wartime slogan encouraging people not to waste anything. With clothes rationed, it was a good idea to reuse old clothes or make new ones yourself. Sewing classes and leaflets showed people how to make coats from blankets, or baby clothes from old pillow cases. A tip for making shoes last longer was to paint the soles with varnish!

But it wasn't only clothing that was rationed; raw materials for everything were in short supply and housewives saved paper, metal and even food bones to be recycled into munitions parts for planes!

With this in mind, I would like you to 'Make-Do & Mend'...

Your task is to make an item which could be given as a Christmas gift out of things that might otherwise have been thrown away. I would like you to write about your item, explaining how you made it and why it is a good gift. You can include photographs or drawings of the various stages and instructions. If you can include the cost of your item and compare it to buying the same item from a shop that would be really interesting too. We will be sharing our 'Make do and mend' Christmas gifts during the last week of term, so please send a photo to school via the school office or Class Dojo on **Monday 14th December**.

Topic homework

For the first piece of topic homework, I would like the children to delve into their family history.

Do you have any family members who were in World War 1 or World War 2? How was your family affected by the World Wars? Do you have any artefacts at home that the children could take photos of?

With this information, I would like the children to produce either a presentation, leaflet or newspaper report, by hand or on the computer, which they will then present to the rest of the class during the first week back after half term. (**Monday 2nd November**)