



ANN EDWARDS CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

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"Learning and achieving together in a caring community."

Do to others what you would want them to do to you- Matthew 7:12

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

**Year 5/6 Autumn Term 1 2020  
Diggin' for Victory!**

**Welcome Back**

In what has been a chaotic and unprecedented time, we hope you have managed to relax and recuperate over the summer holidays and that you are now raring to go for a new and exciting year. We know things around school are not exactly the same as before, but please rest assured that all staff at Ann Edwards have been working tirelessly to ensure that, first of all, the school is safe for all pupils returning, and secondly, that children are coming back to an environment where the learning and experiences they gain are paramount. Our first topic back could not be any more exciting and we are all looking forward, so much, to welcoming you all back with copious amounts of engaging activities to get involved in.

Our topic is called '*Diggin' for Victory*' and will focus on the hugely significant events of World War II. If we can promise one thing, it is that the teachers involved in planning this term have gone 'all-out' with time and energy to prepare an engaging, creative and memorable topic. We will look at the history, considering the reasons for World War II starting, as well as the effects of it on the people involved, both in the war and at home. We will be researching key historical figures linked to World War II and how they influenced the events that transpired. We are keen to involve as much role-play as possible when researching World War II, to experience the emotion and significance of the effects on daily life between 1939-1945. We will be going on a journey around the world, looking at each country involved, researching their role in the event and, crucially, how World War II has shaped the lives we live today. There will be lots of creative writing opportunities as well as plenty of Art and Design & Technology projects along the way. The teachers are incredibly excited about this opportunity to get creative and share such a poignant time in the history of the world, with the children and we hope after reading this, you also share our enthusiasm.

Due to the success of home learning across the time spent at home, we were conscious, as a team, of the importance of evaluating what we could maintain from the period of learning from home. We are excited to announce that we will be continuing with ClassDojo as a way of maintaining regular contact with you at home. We will use this platform to promote work the children have completed at school as well as a tool for communication with you, should we need to. If you wish, please continue to send us significant milestones or achievements outside of school and we will display 'wow' moments from each member of the class over the course of the school year. We will also continue with Purple Mash to set occasional activities at home so that children can go home and further develop their knowledge, understanding and skills.

Reading will continue to be a huge focus for us across the school.



As a team, we all have a passion for reading and our aim is for the children to share our enthusiasm. We will have a class book, which we will read altogether at the end of each day in school. We will continue to encourage the children to read a wide variety of genres to develop their spelling, vocabulary and sentence structure, which will support their writing. Once children have finished a book, they will, in school, complete an Accelerated Reader quiz to assess their understanding and comprehension of the book. Children should aim to read for 15-20 minutes at least 4 times per week. Within this weekly reading time, research states that reading aloud to an adult is pivotal to their development as fluent and comprehensive readers.

Our PE lessons will focus on Football and team games this term. PE will be on a **Tuesday** and **Thursday**. Please ensure that your child **comes into school** in their PE kits on these days, clothing should be suitable for outdoor lessons including outdoor footwear. A change of jumper might also be a good idea in case of wet weather!

We are all extremely enthusiastic about creative memorable and long-lasting experiences for your children in this term and throughout this year. Please do not hesitate to contact us regarding queries, concerns or questions face-to-face at school or through Class Dojo and we thank you for your support in advance.

Yours sincerely

Mr Vaughan, Mrs Seymour, Miss Sheldon and Mrs Jones  
Upper Key Stage 2 Teaching Team