The Learning Challenge™ CURRICULUM

Whittington Primary & Nursery School

Year 5 and 6

Autumn 2 2026

World War 2

and

Life in the decades after



Week 1	**Why was D-Day a turning point in the war?** In **English** the children will be continuing with the story of Olive and her family and discover what happens to the German pilot. Badger class will be building up to writing a balanced argument. Owls will be completing their work on producing a job advert for a light house keeper. Bats will also be looking at persuasive adverts, building up to writing their own adverts in the coming weeks. In **Maths** Year 5 will be continuing using addition and subtraction methods whereas the Year 6s will have moved onto fractions. In **Topic** we will be looking at D-Day and how it was a pivotal moment for the allies, and how it was seen as the beginning of the end of the war. This week in **Science** we will be starting our new unit learning about 'Light' and the children will look at how light travels. We will start our gymnastic unit in **PE** by looking at symmetrical and asymmetrical shapes. In **ICT** the children will start to look at Vector drawings and will experiment using basic shapes and lines. In **Music** children will begin their new unit all about four chord pop. This week, they will focus on celebration songs and explore how music can reflect shared feelings and bring people together. This week in **RE** we are starting our new topic studying Judaism. We will look at where Judaism was founded and look at where it is popular today. In **PSHE** we will discuss cultural differences and how they can lead to conflict.
Week 2	**What was VE day?** We will be continuing with our class text this week in **English**, 'Letters from the Lighthouse'. Badgers will begin a narrative unit. Owls will begin their 2 week unit on a balanced argument – should the villagers help the German pilot? Bats will continue their work on persuasive adverts and will learn about modal verbs, snappy slogans and rhetorical questions. Year 5 **Maths** this week will focus on multiplication and division and Year 6 will be focussing on fractions. This week in **Science** we will be investigating objects that reflects light. In **ICT**, we will be looking at how we resize and copy images we have drawn. In **Music** children will learn to sing in harmony. They will perform a harmony alongside a melody with breath control and projection. In **RE** this week we will continue looking at the origin of Judaism with the story of Abraham. We continue our gymnastic unit in **PE** by continuing looking at symmetrical and asymmetrical shapes. In **PSHE** we will understand what racism is.

How did people's lives change after World War 2?

Week 3	**What was life like directly after the war?** We will be continuing with our class text this week in **English**, 'Letters from the Lighthouse'. Badgers will continue their narrative unit. Owls will continue their work on writing a balanced argument. Year 5 **Maths** this week will focus on multiplication and division and Year 6 will continue to be looking at fractions. Bats will complete their unit on persuasive adverts, writing a job advert for a lighthouse keeper. In **Science** we will be looking at how our eyes work. In **Music** children will perform a rhythmic bass line by following a given structure. In **ICT**, we will be using the zoom tool to add detail to our drawings. In **RE** this week we will be looking at the story of Moses and look at the 10 plagues that were sent to Egypt. In **Topic** this week we will start our new big question and will focus on life in the 1940s and 50s. The children will also learn about the arrival of MV Empire Windrush and its impact on our culture today. We will continue with our gymnastic unit in **PE** by combining various movements to create a fluid routine. In **PSHE** we will look at different bullying behaviours.
Week 4	**What was life like in the 1960s and 70s?** In **English,** Badgers will complete their narrative unit. Owls will begin their narrative unit of writing. Bats will finish Letters from the Lighthouse and will complete their own book reviews. In **Maths** Year 6 will be continuing with fractions and Year 5 will be learning multiplication and division. The children will be moving on through the decades this week in **Topic** and learning about what life was like in Britain in the 1960s and 70s. We will focus particularly on key events like the moon landing. In **Science** we will investigate how shadows are created and how they change depending in the light source. In **RE** this we will be continuing with the story of Moses and focusing on the 10 commandments. This week in **ICT** we will look at the different layers within a drawing. In **Music** children will play a rhythmic chord sequence in time with others. In **PSHE** we will discuss direct and indirect bullying. In **PE** we will recap our routines and transfer them onto the apparatus.
Week 5	**ART FOCUS- Roy Lichtenstein** In **English,** Badgers will begin a unit looking at writing instructions. They will be writing instructions for the Grinch about how to steal Christmas. Owls will continue their narratives, looking at how to use speech to move

	the story forward. Bats will begin a unit on instructions, looking at how to make a Christmas decoration using natural resources, linked to Outdoor Learning. In **Maths** this week year 6 will complete a unit on converting measures. Year 5 will continue working on multiplication and division. In **Science** this week children will be investigating what happens when they look at an object in water and learn about the term refraction. In our **Topic** lessons this week we are focusing on **Art**. We will be looking at the Pop Art movement and delving deeper into the life of Roy Lichtenstein. The children will study his work and then go on to create their own in his style using various mediums including digital images. In **ICT** the children will learn to group objects together so they can move their drawings as one. In **RE** we will be looking at the Jewish sacred books. In our Friday **PE** lesson we will continue working on our gymnastic routines. In **Music** children will rehearse their pop performance. In **PSHE** we will compare our lives to that of people in the developing world.
Week 6	**What was life like in the 1980s and 90s?** In **English** Badgers will continue their Grinch instruction writing unit. Owls will look at the book Coming Home by Michael Morpurgo. Bats will complete their work on writing instructions for a Christmas decoration made out of natural resources. In **Maths** Year 6 will begin their ratio unit. This week in **Science** the children will be investigating how mirrors work. Our **Topic** focus this week will look at the key events form the 1980s and 1990s- we will particularly focus on the development of technology and compare it to today. In **RE** this week we will be looking at the Jewish celebration of Hanukah. The **ICT** lesson will focus on using what they have learnt throughout the unit to create a vector drawing for a purpose. In **Music** children will maintain focus and stage awareness during a performance. In **PE** the children will perform and evaluate their final routine. In **PSHE** we will be able to show an understanding of anther culture from around the world.
Week 7	**REFLECTION WEEK** Most of our learning this week will centre around Christmas. We will be doing lots of arts and crafts creating cards and calendars.

	In Topic the children will reflect on their learning this term and discussing how life was impacted by the war. In Science, the children will complete their assessment challenge wheels.