



Lewknor C of E Primary School

Newsletter



Monday 23rd March, 2020

HOMEWORK UPDATE



These are times of great uncertainty but the team at Lewknor Primary remains committed to supporting our pupils, your children.

The work packs that were sent home should keep the children busy this week and the next.

We will be sending out more information in due course so that home-learning can continue. We will set more English, maths, and a science as well as an art project. A history project has already been sent home. There are also fun PE activities - do access the links.

Please get in touch with the office if you do not have access to a computer, or a phone or tablet. We will try to assist as best we can.



Head teacher's Welcome

UPPER JUNIORS 'GOODNIGHT MR TOM' TRIP



Above: The girls look lovely in their World War Two costumes

Marie wrote: "When we stepped off the coach I felt not only the sun blazing on the back of my neck but the other schools eyes on us because we were all dressed up as evacuees from World War Two.

"Our first activity was going inside a Nissen hut where for nine minutes we heard the sound of bombs going off around us. The sound was deafening. While all the commotion was going on in the sky, I tried imagining being there in the 1940s: sitting inside the shelter, cramped with strangers for hours on end."

Jess added: "You could hear the whistling of bombs dropping and exploding, and the sound of dogs barking in fear of what was going to happen. I think everyone was glad once it was over."

Children in Years 5 and 6 recently visited the Chiltern Open Air Museum because they were holding a Goodnight Mr Tom themed day, which just so happened to be the book they were reading in class. Our pupils dressed for the part donning costumes that were worn during World War Two, when the book was set.

Once back at school, the children wrote about their exciting day. I was so impressed with the standard of writing I thought I should include some extracts of the children's work in this week's newsletter.



Above: Meira and Mylah prepare the potatoes

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Above: Inside Mr Tom's house. Ewan, Callum and Chloe sit at the table, while Mia, Eva and Mylah relax on the sofa

Chloe added: "We washed some cloths in an old-fashioned way: first, we draped the cloth over a washboard and used carbolic soap to scrub it, then we squeezed out as much water as we could. We used a mangle to get all the excess water out and finally we hung them on the washing line."

Marie described the house. "There were two bedrooms. One, which was for Willie (the eight-year-old evacuee), had a small bed and a circular window. The other was Mr Tom's, whose big filthy bed lay in the centre!

"Back downstairs we all sat down and Mr Tom explained, 'Willie, who loves to draw, got a watercolour palette for his birthday. That was tricky to get my hands on!' said Tom in a countryside accent."



Time for tea! Above: Eva.

Right: Mylah



Marie wrote: "While all the commotion was going on in the sky, I tried imagining being there in the 1940s. Sitting inside the shelter cramped with strangers for hours on end. I also tried imagining what was going on in the sky. Young 18-year-old soldiers risking their lives for their countries.

"Next we made our way to Mr Tom's house. It had a thatched roof and at the back was a little red door leading inside."

The children were given jobs to do at Mr Tom's house.

Jess continued: "First we had to clean some horse medals with brass polish, it smelt very acidic. Next we cleaned some shoes with black polish with a corduroy cloth, and finally we scrubbed and washed potatoes. I got to tip the water out!"



Above: Mia and Erin polish the brass

The children then saw what life was like at school during the war years.

Jess wrote: "After lunch, we went to afternoon school where we did some sums on a slate. Then she (Mrs Hatridge, the teacher) gave us each a practice book where we wrote down our numbers 1 to 10 and our alphabet. We had to write this with fountain pens that you dipped in ink."



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Learning the Three Rs: Elliot, Logan, Callum, Ewan, Alex and Stanley with Mrs Hatridge

Marie continued: "Mrs Hatridge, who was very strict and stern, was wearing a silk grey skirt and a woollen cardigan. Her hair was pinned back in a tight bun.

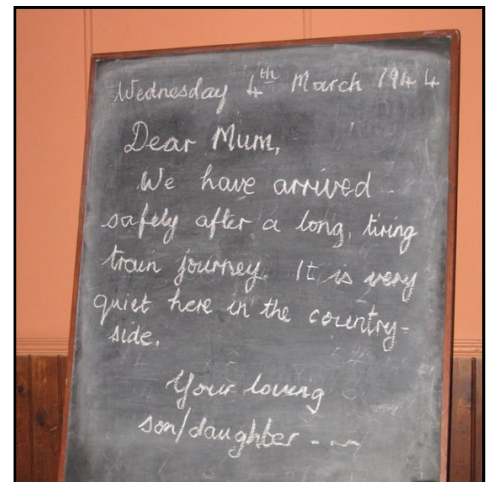
"At the end of the day, I tried to imagine what it was like living in the 1940s. Rationing, school and letters to and from your mum and dad. I knew straight away that life for them was extremely hard."



Jess ended her recount saying: "Looking back at our trip, I feel grateful for all the facilities we have now, and think about how some people had to live without heating or any electricity. We should be thankful for our homes."

Left: Ewan and Alex practise their handwriting

Right: A letter home to Dear Mum



Above: Honor



Above: Mia

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Left: the children learn about life during wartime including rationing and ration books

Below left: Sitting pretty- Chloe, Mylah, Eva and Mia

Below: Taking a well-deserved break - Alex, Stanley and James



Above: What's cooking? Erin and Meira take a look in the pot



Above: Eva tucks into jam sandwiches



Class trip, March 2020

WORD OF THE WEEK

Imminent

Adjective

Definition: When something is imminent, it is expected to happen very soon.