

Information for Parents and Carers

Class 4: Autumn Term 1



The Viking and Anglo-Saxon Struggle for England

The focus of this term's **History** work is the Viking and Anglo-Saxon struggle for England. We will begin this half term by locating the struggle in terms of geography and time and learn about life in Anglo-Saxon Britain. Then, we will learn about who the Vikings were and why they wanted to invade England.

English:

We will begin the year with the Anglo-Saxon legend of **Beowulf**. The children will be writing character descriptions, story settings and exploring monsters and beasts as they venture into the world of the brave Beowulf.

Towards the end of the half term, we will start to look at **The man who walked between the towers** (which links to our Science and DT topics about forces) in preparation for next half term's writing. The children will work on reading and comprehension skills, alongside discrete spelling and grammar learning, to support our written work.

Maths:

In maths, we will begin with place value and then methods of calculation for the 4 operations and a focus on problem solving. Our geometry work will develop the children's knowledge of angles and their ability to reason about angles within shapes. They will measure length and calculate perimeter and area.



Science & DT:

This half-term's science topic is **Forces**. The children will investigate the impact of gravity and the forces of water resistance, air resistance and gravity.

They will need to consider the impact of gravity when they create their own bridges and playgrounds when looking at structures in Design and Technology. We are going to make wooden bridges using saws and tools so is any parents are free to help – please speak to Miss Kay.

PE & Games:

This half term's PE will be Team Games and Basketball on **Mondays** and **Thursday**.



Please ensure that your child has both indoor and outdoor kit in school at all times, as days can change if the hall is booked out or the weather is poor. Please provide outdoor trainers and indoor pumps. Children should bring **bobbles** to tie back long hair and either remove their **earrings** or bring **plasters** to cover them if they can't be taken out.

How you can help at home

- Class 4 home-learning will be set on **Fridays** and should be submitted by the following **Wednesday**.
- It will usually consist of a piece of **Maths and English** work to consolidate the learning in class: It will be set on Google Classroom so if children do not have access to a tablet or computer at home, please let us know and we can arrange for them to do it in school or have a paper copy.
- There will also be a set of **spelling words** for the children to practise for a spelling test each Friday.
- To support our topic learning, there will be a set of **HOME LEARNING CHALLENGES**. The children should try to do **3 each half term**. *These will be celebrated and shared with the class!*
- Please feel free to add your own comments to your child's submitted work if you want to let me know how they got on, what they enjoyed and any issues that cropped up so that I can follow it up.
- For extra maths problem solving activities where children practice thinking like a mathematician and extending their learning, there are great websites like www.nrich.maths.org and www.parallel.org.uk
- Finally, it cannot be underestimated how important it is for your child to **READ AND BE READ TO** regularly. Please encourage them to read and share books with you to build their confidence, fluency, and passion for reading!



Class 4 - Dates for your diary:

- 19th September – Welcome Meeting 5pm
- 24th September – Class 4 trip to Castleshaw (details to follow)
- Friday 4th October – Wooden bridge building (parents helpers wanted)
- 7th October – Individual Photos
- 21st or 22nd Year 5 bikeability (details to follow)
- Friday 25th October – Staff INSET day
- 28th Oct – 1st Nov – HALF TERM



Cross Curricular Learning:

Our **RE** unit this half term is entitled, 'Values: What matters most to Humanists?' The children will learn about humanist values, naming ceremonies and marriages. In **French**, the children will learn to introduce themselves, including their birthday, and ask and answer questions about their family. Our **Music** learning will be based on 'Happy' by Pharrell Williams and our **PSHCE** unit is about 'Emotions'. The children will take part in School Council elections and also prepare for the Harvest Festival. **Music** unit will be based on 'Happy' by Pharrell Williams.



