

Year 4 – Autumn Term



Topic (Including trips/experiences)

This term the children will study the Saxons, Normans & Vikings. We will start the topic off with a visit to the Chiltern Open Air Museum for an Anglo-Saxon experience day to immerse ourselves into Anglo-Saxon life. They will discover the way that the Saxons, Normans & Vikings shaped the landscape of Britain, paying attention to the local area which has a wealth of evidence. They will explore what life was like considering the way that they were ruled, and how some of their laws and language are still prevalent now. Geography skills will be incorporated into this topic by looking at the place names in the local area as well as considering where the Saxons, Vikings and Normans originally came from. In Art lessons, children will use their trip experience to the museum to further their skills in line making and watercolours to sketch a Saxon house, and master the art of a Saxon skill. In DT, children will develop their baking skills by making some traditional Saxon honey bread. They will research, design and get the chance to build a log Viking Long Boat in the woods. In Music, children will recognise rhythm and pulse as well as hearing the Music of the Month. In RE, children will research how the Saxons discovered Christianity. In addition to this, we will focus on the human & social sciences and the theology and philosophy of Judaism and Christianity.

Homework

All homework is paper-less but children will be given homework books to write in to keep at home. Homework will be uploaded onto Seesaw on a **Thursday**. It should be completed and uploaded into their journal by the following **Wednesday**.

Weekly tasks may include:

- learning spellings based on that week's pattern and the Year 3/4 list of key spellings.
- Maths tasks based on that week's learning or revision from previous years.
- TT Rock Stars work
- A reading comprehension task or a writing task

PE

Year 4 have PE on Wednesdays. There is an indoor AND an outdoor session on this day. Lessons will involve outdoor adventure activities focusing on communication, tactics and problem solving. They will develop leadership and collaboration skills with defending and attacking tactics.

PE kits should be worn into school on their PE day. Please ensure children have a warm jumper and tracksuit bottoms as the weather is very changeable in this term.

Reading at Home

Where possible, children should be reading every day at home. Home school diaries should be signed by parents and used by the children to 'magpie' words and phrases that they can then use in their writing. Home school diaries should be brought in every day. Please note: if you have written a specific note to me, please ask your child to show me. In school, Year 4 pupils will continue to expand their vocabulary through exposure to books and other writing that they have not come across before – hearing and learning new vocabulary and grammatical structures, and having a chance to talk about this. You can support this at home by:

- Encouraging discussion with your child when pronouncing new words.
- Broadening the vocabulary that you use when speaking to your child and being prepared to clarify the meaning of a wider range of words, modelling them within sentences.
- Encouraging your child to read silently to themselves but check their understanding.
- Listening to a range of good quality audio books.
- Reading more difficult texts **to** your child and allowing them the chance to listen and ask questions.
- When children have read to me, a note will be stamped in their book as reading can take many forms in the classroom. For example, reading what they have written in their books, reading work from the board, reading to friends, reading out loud in whole class reading sessions.

Respect-Positivity-Honesty-Perseverance- Courage- Loyalty

English

In English this term, we will be working on the following genres:

- Myths and Legends
- Explanation Texts
- Poetry
- Diary writing

We have three, hour-long guided reading sessions per week. In these, we will study a variety of Arthurian legends, Beowulf and diary entries from the Norman Invasion. Children will also use the information they have gathered about the Saxons to write an explanation text. Children will continue to work daily on Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar.

Maths

In maths this term, we will cover:

- Place value and written addition
- Decimals and written addition
- subtraction
- Multiplication, division and fractions
- Number and written multiplication

Every Monday starts with a times tables test, we have an online times tables test in the Summer, we then work on arithmetic for the other mornings. The children MUST know their tables, the test gives 6 seconds for each question to be answered and they will complete it in the ICT suite.

Science

In Science, our topic is: All living things- plants and habitats:

- recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways.
- use classification keys to identify & name groups in local & wider environment
- changing environments & dangers that can occur for living things

Children will use a variety of science skills to cover the following areas of knowledge about the topic. Science is very practical to give the children a full opportunity to explore a range of skills.

Computing

Each half term starts with lessons on e-safety. Children learn how to use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly. Then children will continue to progress their computing skills so that they can:

- research Sutton Hoo/ Saxon skills
- produce a power point presentation with a variety of fonts and styles
- undertake basic programming skills
- use Google Earth to locate local Saxon settlements

PSHE/RSE

Our whole school theme for this term is:

Being Me in My World.

Year 4 will focus on the following areas:

- Being part of a class team
- Being a school citizen
- Rights, responsibilities and democracy (school council)
- Rewards and consequences
- Group decision-making
- Having a voice
- What motivates behaviour

Useful Websites

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/at-school/year-4-at-primary-school/>

<https://ttrockstars.com/home>

<https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/reading-lists-for-ks2->

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/saxons.htm>

White Rose Maths

Wendover/ Aylesbury Lending Library (order children's books for free)

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