

**CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER****CLASS 4****AUTUMN TERM 2025****TEACHER:** MRS SUCKSMITH**TOPIC TITLE: INVADERS! ANGLO-SAXONS AND VIKINGS****TEACHING ASSISTANT:** MR SMITH**UNDERSTANDING ENGLISH, COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE:**

We begin our Autumn Term with a short unit of work, inspired by Laura Carlin's 'A World of Your Own'. The children will use the picture book to inspire and create their dream home in a world of their own and to write descriptive and persuasive pieces connected to their ideas.

Much of our English work, however, will be rooted in our topic, 'Invaders! Anglo-Saxons and Vikings'.

Using 'Viking Boy' by Tony Bradman, children will complete a variety of short written tasks that have been designed to develop their ability to write quality descriptions and to rehearse and apply the use of commas and semi-colons. They will consider how language can be used figuratively for effect and to impact the reader.

Children will use inference to consider character's feelings and, using a range of sentence types, write in role. At the end of Term 1, they will carry out research into an aspect of Viking life, learn techniques for effective notetaking and turn their notes into an informative written piece. In Term 2, we will use a short film, 'Jotun' to inspire flashback writing as well as producing a newspaper report about the Viking invasions at Lindisfarne.

In Art, children will be making a Viking artefact for an archaeological museum display and in English, they will write a corresponding entry for the collection catalogue.

We shall supplement our writing curriculum with extracts from a variety of books that contain an Anglo-Saxon and Viking setting. The Class will also share 'The Legend of Podkin One-Ear' by Kieran Larwood as their class book for enjoyment.

MATHEMATICAL UNDERSTANDING:

Our Autumn Term topics in both Years 5 and 6 are:

- Calculating using knowledge and structures (addition and multiplication)
- Multiples of 1,000
- Numbers to 10,000,000
- Decimal fractions
- Fractions

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL UNDERSTANDING:

- **Light**

What are shadows, how are they formed and how can we change them? How do our eyes work and allow us to see objects?

We will investigate reflection and learn about refraction as well as investigating the colours in white light.

- **Earth and Space**

What are the planets in our solar system and can we describe their movements? How does the rotation of the Earth create day and night? Why do we have seasons?

We will learn about the phases of the moon, discover how theories about our solar system have changed and investigate different planets in our solar system.

THINGS YOU CAN DO AT HOME TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING:

Your child will receive regular homework, which will be given on a Friday and is due in the following Thursday. Please ensure that you support your child in completing the tasks that have been set:

Maths – relating to learning in class that week (weekly).

English task – this could be a spelling consolidation activity, a piece designed to use and apply grammar skills taught that week or a creative piece that could be linked to another area of the curriculum.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

- In Term 1, we will be learning more about Sikh beliefs and the role that worship plays in the life of a Sikh.
- In Term 2, our learning will be based on the big question 'Was Jesus the Messiah?' and preparing for the Christmas Service, which will be led by Class 4.

HISTORICAL, GEOGRAPHICAL & SOCIAL UNDERSTANDING:

- The children will be learning about Britain during the time of the Anglo-Saxon and Viking invasions and how England became a unified country.

UNDERSTANDING THE ARTS:

- We will be learning about Viking art and its key characteristics. Children will apply their learning by creating sketches of Viking warriors, knot patterns and animals. They will design and create their own piece of Viking jewellery and an artefact for an archaeological collection.

UNDERSTANDING PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH & WELLBEING:

- Our PSHE units are: 'Me and my relationships' and 'Valuing difference'.

FURTHER THINGS YOU CAN DO AT HOME TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING:

Additionally, please continue to support your child with their times tables by listening to times table rhymes and songs, as well as encouraging them to log in to and play TTRS regularly. Word Shark should also be used at home to support spelling. Children will be reminded of their log-ins for both programs in the coming week.

Encouraging and fostering a love of reading is also so important for young people. I read to them daily at school and encourage them to do so at home themselves. They have a Reading Journal which I will check weekly. For every day of reading, they are awarded a raffle ticket. At the end of each term, I hold a reading raffle and the winner is awarded a book of their choice.

VISITS AND TRIPS:

Swimming (every Thursday for Year 5 and top-up for selected Year 6 pupils for 10 weeks from Thursday 11th September, excluding residential weeks) Please ensure that your child has a full kit.

Yenworthy residential for Year 6 (15-19 September)

Yenworthy residential for Year 5 (13-15 October)

Year 6 Bikeability (13-15 October) – more details to follow

RESOURCES WE NEED:

It would be very helpful to have a set of old shirts that children can use to protect their uniform when painting. If you have any spare, please do consider donating them.

AND ESSENTIAL . . .

A reading book and water bottle should be in school daily.

PE kit must be in school on a Tuesday, and Forest School kit (see separate letter sent with dates).

Please ensure that children have an appropriate snack for breaktime (fresh fruit – not fruit winders – fresh vegetables and breadsticks are ideal).

We are always happy to give help and advice, so please do not hesitate to contact us.