

Curriculum newsletter for 4J and 4M

Spring 2 2019

Mrs Jones, Miss Moody, Mrs Lawrence, Mrs Fannon, Miss Tully, Miss Read and Mrs Topali

English

How can you help your child in English? Here are some great ideas:

- Please continue to support your child with reading at home, they may prefer to read to themselves instead of reading aloud which is great too. Please record this entry in their reading record so it counts towards their number of weekly reads.
- We have a focus on creating imagery through vocabulary choices in Year 4 so you could discuss this with your child, supporting them to identify and pick out effective vocabulary and word types. Look for sentences starting with a fronted adverbial with them as this is a Year 4 writing expectation. Also ask your child to be inverted commas and the associated punctuation spotters; this will support them with using this with more accuracy in their writing
- Try to share books that support the topic so for this half term, maybe you could have a look for books about the Anglo Saxons and Vikings in your local library. Look for new topic words and how to use the glossary and index.
- Again, please send in any writing your child completes at home as we love to share and celebrate this in class.

Special sessions!

Swimming sessions will commence on the first Tuesday back at the Bromsgrove Sports and Leisure Centre. If your child is in this group to attend swimming then you will have received a consent letter already. Madame Longley will continue to teach French on a Thursday morning; this half term she will be teaching Class 4M.

As always please ensure PE kits are always in school and during the winter weather, please ensure your child has suitable outdoor PE kit.

Our topic this half term is **TRADERS & RAIDERS**

Our learning in Year 4 for the second half of the spring term is our fantastic topic, Traders and Raiders. We will be learning all about Anglo Saxons and Vikings. As this is a history based topic, the children will be learning about life after the Romans left England. We have planned an educational visit to Bishops Wood Educational Centre to experience a day as Viking settlers. For our writing we will be using two super texts, 'Tell me a Dragon' which is beautifully illustrated by Jackie Williams and 'Monster Slayer' by Brian Patten. We will also be performing with Year 3 in the KS2 production on Tuesday, 9th April. This year's production is Roald Dahl's Revolting Rhymes 'Little Red Riding Hood'.

Maths

To support your child with their maths, here are some helpful pointers:

- We continue to have a big focus on times tables and are really pleased to see the number of children using Times Table Rockstars at home. Please let your child's teacher know if you are having any problems with accessing this at home.
- We are also practising times tables two or three times a week, against the three minute time limit.
- Learning times tables is also a focus in starter session of some of our maths lessons.
- Please continue to support with telling the time in digital in 24 hour, so converting to an am or pm time from analogue to digital.
- As always, any queries about maths, please speak with your child's teacher.

Topic

Our topic for next half-term is Traders & Raiders which is history focused within our topic work. Learning will include:

- In History we will explore the Saxon way of life, including where they came from and why they wanted to invade. We will discover how the Vikings were equipped to invade Britain by looking at their transport and weaponry.
- In Art and Design we will be using sketching and skills with tints and tones to produce our own Dragon artwork in the style of Jackie Morris
- In Design and Technology we will be using design and construction skills to make Anglo Saxon settlements
- In RE learning is about Christianity looking at how Jesus inspired others through his teachings
- We will be holding our own Year 4 Science Week so the children will be engaged with lots of opportunities to work scientifically and share their learning with their peers in different ways

Unlocking the learning at home....as always we have received some super examples of home learning which are always on display in the main entrance and in our classrooms. Please remember that if your child is unsure of their home learning then we can help with resources to complete their home learning, or discuss ideas with them. Please just ask one of us for support. We believe it is very important that every child has the opportunity to engage with learning at home and will support however we can with this.

Year 4 Home Learning Projects

Traders and Raiders

4J/4M

The children in Year 4 will be taking part in 'Creative Homework Projects' that we would like them to complete over the coming weeks. The project for this half term is Traders and Raiders, a super topic learning all about life Anglo Saxon life in Britain including the Viking invasion.

We look forward to seeing the results and would like the children to bring their completed projects into school prior to our home learning celebration assembly on Monday 8th April. We love to see the children sharing and celebrating each other's talents before the end of term. We would ask that this project reflects six weeks' worth of work, and demonstrates the children's own work, although we really appreciate your support in helping them complete their homework.



Thank you for your continued support

The Year 4 Team

Mrs Jones

Miss Moody

Mrs Lawrence

How did they make bread during Anglo Saxon and Viking times? Create a set of instructions for making Anglo Saxon bread or Viking flatbread	Find out about real treasure (often known as hoards) discovered from this period. Sutton Hoo and the Staffordshire Hoard are good examples. Write a fact file about the hoard and provide information about items	Draw a map of the Viking's journey from their homeland to Britain. Don't forget to add the ancient beasts which they may have encountered on their journey.
Find out more about the foods that they would have eaten at those times. Which food groups did they cover? You could create a menu for a Viking meal.	Find out more about the futhark or runic alphabet used by the Vikings. Write a short message using the runic characters. They wrote on wood, bone and stone. What will you use?	Research some simple Viking embroidery patterns. Create your own pattern using a needle and thread to embroider a small piece of cloth.
Make Viking warriors out of playdough and a Viking Longboat out of card.	Look at animals in Viking art. Can you design and draw your own imaginary beast; don't forget to describe the special qualities it has.	Create a piece of Viking warrior attire (helmet, sword, shield or even a long boat) using junk modelling.