



Curriculum Newsletter for Year 4  
 Spring 1

<p> <b>Maths</b>  <b>Place value; addition and subtraction</b> focuses on ensuring a robust understanding of place value and numbers to 10,000, including counting in equal steps; this understanding is then used to underpin mental addition and subtraction.  <b>Subtraction; multiplication</b> focuses on written calculation methods underpinned by a secure understanding of place value: vertical subtraction and multiplication methods, and multiplication problems involving money.  <b>Division; fractions</b> focuses on mental multiplication and division strategies, which underpin the work on proper fractions that follows, including finding non-unit fractions of amounts, equivalent fractions and simplifying.  <b>2D shape</b> focuses on properties of 2D shapes, including angles, parallel and perpendicular lines, and symmetry.  <b>Mental calculation strategies</b> focuses on the relationship between the operations, particularly multiplication and division, and then between addition and subtraction; these important inverse relationships are linked to mental calculation.</p>	<p><b>English</b>        In English we will be linking our Traders and Raiders topic to our writing by looking at the story of Beowulf. We will be analysing the text and writing about the heroes and monsters before writing our own Anglo-Saxon style tale.         We will also be using our guided reading text of Tilly and the Time Machine as a stimulus for our writing. We will explore Tilly's journey in search for her dad back through time landing us in Anglo-Saxon and Viking times. Our Viking topic will also provide us with stimulus for some Viking kenning poems.         Throughout all our English lessons, we will be learning about the different Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling areas that are part of the Year 4 Curriculum.</p>
<p><b>RE</b>        Our topic for RE this term is <b>Celebrating the Mass/Eucharist</b>.         Please see separate RE newsletter for more information.</p>	<p><b>Science</b>        Our science topic this half term is <b>Sound</b>.          We will be learning about how sounds are made and how our ear work so we are able to hear sound. We will be experimenting with making sounds louder and quieter as well as how the pitch of sound can change.</p>
<p><b>Topic</b>        Our topic this term is '<b>Traders and Raiders</b>'. We will find out about the life of the Saxons, including how they lived and where they came from. We will also move on to finding out about the Vikings. This unit of work will involve aspects of History and Geography but will also include Art and DT where we will make a Saxon sword or Viking brooch and decorate it with intricate patterns. We will also make models of an Anglo Saxon home.</p>	<p><b>PE</b>        PE sessions will be on a <b>Tuesday</b> afternoon so the children must have the appropriate kit on this day.          We will also be <b>Swimming</b> this term on a <b>Thursday morning</b>.         Please ensure that all PE kit, including trainers/pumps are named as this makes life a lot easier! Also, please ensure that the children have both indoor PE kit and a pair of joggers/jumper to wear outside to keep them warm.</p>

## Homework



We will continue with the routine of Spellings to learn one week and then a SPAG homework the next.

The children will bring their Maths homework books home every week on a Friday, to be returned to school by the Wednesday the following week.

We will continue with our weekly Friday morning multiplication and division facts tests from the 6, 7 and 9 times tables specifically. We may also recap on the other times tables. The children are growing in confidence with these tests and should continue to work on their speed at recalling these facts, any games, songs, chanting you can do on these tables will support their learning.

The children will also receive some topic based project homework this half term on our topic Traders and Raiders. This will be completed over several weeks linking in with our current topic of learning. We will have a designated session for the children to share their work with each other. It is lovely to see their hard work during these sessions, some of the Science homework from last term was brilliant!

The children will have the opportunity to change their reading books frequently during the week and we do expect them to read their reading books at home and for this to be recorded in their reading record. Many thanks to all of you who are supporting your children with their reading. You may also record any other reading they do at home, it is interesting for us to see what else they like reading.