

## Year 4 Spring Term

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to you all. We hope you had a wonderful Christmas and wish you the happiest New Year! Please do take the opportunity to come and speak to us if you wish. Below is an overview of the forthcoming term. We hope that you find it useful.

Best wishes,

Miss Brewster (Spruce) and Miss Gleave (Fir)

**Topics:** This term we will have one main topic:

### Spring 1 and 2 – The Vikings



Our key question will be:

### **Raiders and Settlers – How should we remember the Vikings?**

**Trips:** We have a Viking workshop coming into school this half term who will help us make the link between the Anglo-Saxons and the Vikings and we will be engaging in interactive and enjoyable activities.

**English:** We will be linking our topics to our core texts and foundation subjects this term and we will be covering a wide range of genres including:

- Autobiographies
- Narratives
- Poetry
- Explanation texts
- Non-chronological reports
- Diary entries
- Instructional writing

**Maths:** In Maths, we will be covering all four number operations through and across all units. During Spring 1, we will focus on number and place value as well as multiplication and division, area and perimeter and fractions. In Spring 2, we will be focussing on decimals, properties of shapes, and statistics.

**Science:** Our science topics this term are States of Matter where we will look at solids, liquids and gases and the transformations between the states.

**Music:** Our music focus for the term will be music from the past and celebrations, developing our understanding of verse and chorus, singing in groups in different languages, and experimenting with percussion instruments.

**PE:** Our PE sessions this term will focus on *Invasion, and Striking and Field Games* and *Dance*. Please ensure your child has the correct **full PE kit** in school with them every day, as PE times may vary. Please remember that PE will take place indoors and outdoors so appropriate footwear is essential. Please see your child's class teacher for more information about the PE days for your class.

**Art/DT:** To link with our topics, we will be creating and adding to sketch books throughout the year. We will be looking at analysing and producing creative work with different materials, and

some of our art will also link to the Chinese New Year. In the second half term, we will look at facial expressions and how to incorporate these into portraits. In Design Technology, we will be creating our own Viking jewellery, and hopefully create our own Viking Longboat (as life size as we possibly can!) using wood and other different materials.

**RE:** In the Spring term, we will be learning about Jesus and how he is portrayed through stories and we will use this to recognise and understand our own values. In Spring 2, we will learn about the Easter story and how Jesus inspires Christians.

**Computing:** We will be learning how to use sequence, selection and repetition in programs, leading onto designing a prototype of a computer-controlled toy. We will be looking at how algorithms work including detecting and correcting errors. In Spring 2, we will be looking at how to create a website.

**PHSE:** In Spring 1, our topic is Financial Capability and we will learn about how to save, spend and budget money, and how money choices affect people's lives. In Spring 2, we will learn about our emotions and how to cope with different emotions, how to deal with fear and worries, and how to care for other people's feelings.

**French:** We will be elaborating on the French that we already know and learning how to communicate in sentences with each other. We will also be learning new phrases relating to numbers, prices, stories and instructions.

**Home expectations:** With regard to reading, children need to be changing their own books at school. We will remind the children but it should also be their responsibility to remember to do this. Two pieces of homework will also be given out on a Friday: this will be online (MyMaths or Bug Club). Times Tables are non-negotiable and should be practised every day on TT Rockstars or in any other ways that help them. Spelling words will be given out with homework on Fridays, and tested the following Friday. In terms of drinking water, please could we advise children to bring in a reusable bottle, **not** any single-use plastic as we are trying to reduce this as a school.



**CREATIVE PROJECTS:** We will set projects term and we encourage you to attempt at least two of them but please feel free to do more! Last term we had some fantastic projects and these children got highly recognised for the effort that they put into these, so thank you if you did help or encourage your children to complete any projects. These are the projects we would like you to consider based on our topic for the Spring Term. If you do think of any additional projects, please feel free to do them even if they aren't listed!

### VIKINGS

- Create a Viking longboat that actually floats on water. Could you use some recyclable materials for the base of your boat?
- Design and make a Viking runestone. Find out what runestones were used for and present some information to go with it!
- Create your own Viking outfit made from leftover materials that you can wear, or, create miniature versions of your outfits to fit dolls!
- Make some Viking bread! Ensure that you attach all of the ingredients and a recipe to go with it in case of any allergies within the class.
- Research and make a Viking game that could be played at school. Can you write some instructions for the game?