

## Y5 Spring Term

Happy New Year to you all. I hope you had a fantastic Christmas break.

### English

We start the Spring Term focussing on reading and understanding poetry (with a ghostly flavour). Following this, we will move on to planning and writing myths, particularly myths relating to the Vikings. Within this, children will explore story structure, including: character development, rules of writing speech and paragraph development. As a cross-curricular link, the children will look at reference texts in their topic work and will research an aspect of Viking life to write a piece of work to contribute to a whole-class book.

Towards the end of the term, we will explore recounts, including newspaper reports. Nearer this time, it will be good for children to explore news reports themselves and bring any of interest into school to be shared with the rest of the class. Our residential visit will also provide a super source of information for some of the class recounts.

### Maths

We will base much of our Maths work around understanding decimal numbers to, eventually, 3 decimal places (eg, 9.836). We will use this understanding when converting between metric measurements so any home-based practical uses of measuring and converting would be much appreciated, eg, cooking with g and kg or measuring in cm and m for DIY projects. We will also look at timetables so, again, real-life examples of using these would be good (eg, working out lengths of time for television shows or how long before a bus comes etc).

The children will also be aiming to learn (and revise) standard written methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. If you would like to support them in this, please pop in and we can show you which methods we use at school so that we are all approaching this work in the same way.

Again, we ask that you encourage your child to learn the times tables by heart from 2 to 12. Knowing tables facts by heart gives the children confidence to tackle so many aspects of the Maths curriculum. The Times Tables Rock Stars is a superb resource that can improve rapid recall of times tables dramatically. If you have trouble accessing it at home, please let us know.

In **History**, we will be looking at The Vikings and much of our work in other subjects will link to this too. The children will develop chronological knowledge of events, address historical questions and understand how knowledge is gained from a variety of sources.

The **Geography** study will encourage children to: have a greater understanding of the countries within Europe; recognise reasons for the movement of people from one place to another and to recognise places within Britain where the Vikings invaded and settled.

In **Science**, we are studying Earth and Space for the first half term which focuses upon movement of the planets and moon, knowledge of how day and night occur and gravity. After half term we will be completing a unit of work about Forces which will include; friction, gravity, pushes, pulls and air and water resistance.

**PE** continues to be taught on a Wednesday and we would like to take this opportunity to remind you that the first half term will be taken up with orienteering so children need to have jogging bottoms and long-sleeved tops as they may be outside in cold, damp weather.

**Music** will continue to be led by our specialist music teacher, Miss Gears. Understanding musical notation and rhythm will form the main foci of this term's work supplemented by more amazing singing.

**Computing** - children will be making Viking-themed scratch animations.

**Design and Technology** – children will be making moon buggies linked to their Science theme.

**Art** – children will experiment with imagery of a Viking Longship influenced by the artist Joan Miro.

**French** – children will be developing their language skills based around descriptions of animals.

Mrs Murray will lead the **RE** teaching with a focus in the first half term on beliefs and practice, looking at what food, drink and leisure are important in Islam. After half term, festivals are studied. The Easter story is discussed with a focus on betrayal and loyalty.

Your support with **homework** continues to be valued. New homework, including spellings, is set every Friday for the following Friday. A reading comprehension and Spelling Punctuation and Grammar (SPaG) piece of homework is set on alternate weeks and is marked in class. Maths homework is discussed in class prior to being set and is differentiated. This is marked by the class teacher and returned the following Friday.

Thank you for your continued support.

The Year 5 Team

Mr Fawdon, Mrs Addison & Mrs King