



Yarm Primary School
Part of the Enquire Learning Trust
Spitalfields
Yarm
Stockton on Tees
TS15 9HF

<http://www.yarmprimary.org.uk/>

Head teacher: Jill Wood

Tel: 01642 782731 email: yarm@yarmprimary.org.uk

Year 4 Spring Newsletter

Dear Parents,

We hope you all have happy and prosperous New Year. It will be lovely to welcome the children back after their Christmas break and we look forward to continuing to develop their positive behaviours for learning over the coming term. It has been a challenging year in many ways and we cannot thank you enough for your support.

Year 4 Staff:

Class 4AP taught by Mr Painter

Class 4SP taught by Mr Parry

Miss Dale and Mrs Meek are also part of the Year 4 team.

We have planned an exciting, challenging and enjoyable Spring Term.

Main topic:

Our main topic this term is Invaders and Settlers: Anglo Saxons and Vikings. We will start by looking at their origins, their characteristics and then begin to learn about their way of life. Later in the term, we will compare Viking and Victorian life and focus on a key event in Victorian history. Throughout the topic, we will focus on their timeline, their place within the wider timeline of British history and their role as invaders and settlers.

English:

In English, we will explore traditional myths, legends and tales (linked to our topic), and we will write/adapt our own myth or legend, to be shared with Lower School. In addition to this, we will use persuasive writing techniques to explore why they would wish to invade or settle. We will be exploring a range of text types and genres aimed at challenging the children with a range of literature. There will be a continued emphasis on grammar, punctuation and spelling in the daily English lessons. We will be exploring the traditional tales of Arthur and the Round Table as well as Beowulf with a range of text types and skills focussed on through these. Moreover, we will read the story of 'The Last Viking' by Terry Deary and continue our strong focus on daily reading, class



reads and daily guided reading. We will continue to ensure the children are challenged alongside pushing consistent high expectations in spelling, presentation and punctuation.

Maths:

Maths will continue to follow the new White Rose framework. Multiplication, division, area, fractions and decimals are the main areas of learning this term, with an emphasis on fluency, reasoning and problem solving. Multiplication tables will continue to be a major focus for year 4. It is **very** important that the children have rapid recall of multiplication tables and can also derive the associated division facts. Each child has a Times Table Rockstars account that they can also access from home. If you require login details, then please just ask. Children will also be challenged with speed tables. We would appreciate your continued help in aiding your children to learn these at home, if you require any help with how you can approach this, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Science:

In science we will study States of Matter, looking at the properties of solids, liquids and gases and changes such as condensation and evaporation. We will also learn about the water cycle and its wider role on Earth. This will be combined with practical science experiments linked to the wider topics and themes.

ICT:

We are following the ELT new ICT curriculum. In the following half term we are going to introduce the children to exciting new coding software and build their skills as developers. The scheme links heavily to Apple's software and if you have any questions/would like to support your child at home with this then just let us know.

Foundation subjects:

In History we will ask whether the Anglo Saxons should stay or go and how like them we are. Art and DT will be delivered through these topic themes. Mr Newton will be delivering the music sessions each week to both classes and has planned cross-curricular sessions linked to creating Anglo Saxon instruments as well as the traditions of Anglo Saxon life.

Our Religious Education work is to compare and contrast festivals across religions as well as studying the Christian Easter story and traditions of Sikhism. We will continue to promote Social and Emotional aspects of learning - making personal goals, keeping safe and healthy, friendship and anti-bullying.

P.E. will take place every week with sessions covering Football and speed and agility. These sessions will be outdoors (weather permitting). We continue to advise that PE kits are not brought into school. However, please ensure appropriate footwear.

Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) will involve work on peer pressure, the need for rules, raising awareness of dangerous situations and understanding the nature of responsibility.

Project:

During the second half of the term, the children will be involved in a D&T project linked to our topic, which they will share with the rest of school. More information will follow.

Homework:

Homework will be set every **FRIDAY** and we expect this to be completed and returned via Class Dojo by the **THURSDAY**. As per school policy, if homework is not completed without prior reason



then the children will complete it in their Golden Time. The weekly homework will continue to contain weekly spellings and spelling rules, grammar and sentence-level work linked to and supporting work in class. The spellings will continue to contain spelling pattern focuses, targeted words and words from the statutory Y3/4 spelling list (which has been attached with this newsletter). We ask for parental help in familiarising children with these words. All children will have opportunities to read in school on a daily basis; however we would like all children to read at least three times a week at home with examples shared on Class Dojo. Maths homework will focus around the multiplication tables, including some word problems as well as extending into wider problem solving.

Trips/events:

Despite current restrictions, we will continue to ensure an enriching curriculum offer for the children. We will return to the woods in the first half term to build on our fantastic first experience. This will allow us to observe changes in the wood with the winter season as well as complete Anglo Saxon related activities.

Prime Time

Please make sure the children have a healthy snack (fruit, vegetables or breadsticks) and water (in a securely lidded bottle) for Prime Time.

If you have any queries or questions, then please get in touch as we are always here to help.

Again, we thank you for your continued support. We are looking forward to a fabulous term and wish you a very happy new year. If there are any questions or queries, then please do get in touch.

Take care and stay safe,

Year 4 team - Mr Painter, Mr Parry, Miss Dale, Mrs Meek