



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

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

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Dear Parents,

The children are all settling into their new classes, getting to know new staff and becoming familiar with routines. We commend our children for their super behaviour, attitude to learning and good manners demonstrated during our transition period and in the first week of term.

Staff in Year 4:

Class 4LC taught by Mrs Chisholm

Class 4 AP taught by Mr Painter

Mr Robinson and Miss Icton are also part of the Year 4 team.

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

English:

In English, we will be studying stories with imaginary and historical settings, one of these will be 'Anglo-Saxon Boy' by Tony Bradman and work based around a Power of Reading text which will include diary entries, letters and character studies. Non-chronological reports, paragraphing and action sequences will be based around a short film clip. We will also look at Anglo-Saxon myths and legends, writing non-chronological and newspaper reports, and performing and composing poems. Our follow-on topic of Vikings will involve the children working on Viking sagas. There will be a major emphasis on grammar, punctuation and presentation with handwriting and SPAG incorporated into lessons.

Maths:

Maths will involve the National Curriculum objectives being broken down into longer blocks where the small steps are designed to develop children's understanding. They will be involved in mathematical talk, undertake questions to demonstrate their fluency in a variety of ways and have opportunities to develop and apply their problem-solving and mastery skills.

By the end of Year 4 it is important that the children have good recall of multiplication tables as in June 2020, the new Year 4 Multiplication tables check will become statutory. Your child will need to take a short online test to make sure their multiplication tables knowledge is at the expected level. It is also important that they can derive the associated division facts, though these will not be part of the test. This will be a major focus over the first two terms and the children will be challenged with speed tables at school and regular homework activities. We would appreciate your support in helping your child to consolidate their learning at home. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you require any help. More information will be shared with you later in the school year.

Science:

Our first Science topic will be 'Living things and their habitats' where we will learn about the characteristics of living things, how they can be sorted in a variety of ways and how classification keys can



be used to identify them. Our second topic, 'Animals, including humans', will focus on the process of digestion and how tooth type affects diet in humans and animals, whilst also studying predators and prey.

ICT:

In the autumn term, we are following a broad and exciting programme based around Internet Safety and Scratch Coding software. We will also be developing software and designing our own educational games.

Foundation subjects:

In History we will study the Anglo-Saxons with DT delivered through this topic. Mr Newton will be delivering the Music sessions each week to both classes and has planned cross-curricular sessions. Our Religious Education work has elements of Christianity and Paganism. We will continue to promote Social and Emotional aspects of learning with the topic being New Beginnings, Getting on and Falling Out, in addition to the Anti- Bullying agenda. Circle Time will also provide opportunities to develop understanding of a wide range of issues, such as E safety and staying safe outside of school. P.E will take place twice per week and one session will be outdoors (weather permitting). Outdoor P.E. will take place on a **Monday** morning. Please ensure the children have the correct kit on both these days. It is important that they have a **warm outdoor kit** – leggings, jogging bottoms, tracksuit top, sweatshirt etc. Indoor kit can consist of shorts, T-shirt, trainers, or gym shoes. Children will also be taking part in short Mindfulness sessions.

Year 4 Blog

Details of our work, trips, visits and activities can be found on our School blog on Yarm Primary School website - yarmprimaryschool.net. It is updated weekly. Please feel free to respond with a comment.

Homework:

Homework will be set every Friday and we expect this to be completed and returned to school by following Thursday with an extension until Friday if necessary. The weekly homework will be a spelling rule, or a set of spellings to learn each night. Maths homework will focus on multiplication tables and include some word problems.

We will also be sending out a Homework grid each half term in which the tasks are carefully devised to support pupils' learning; we aim to provide stimulating and enriching homework activities. Examples of high-quality homework, where applicable, will be displayed in the classrooms.

All children will have opportunities to read in school on a daily basis; however, we would also encourage all children to read regularly at home.

Trips:

We will be organising our main school trip early in the Autumn Term. This trip will support our English and History work and will be linked to our Anglo-Saxon Topic. Details will be confirmed shortly.

Prime Time

Could you please make sure the children have a healthy snack (fruit, vegetables or breadsticks – no nuts) and water for Prime Time? If possible, the water bottle should have a sports style lid to minimise spillage if it should accidentally be knocked over!

Finally, if you have any queries, questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us via the school office, or pop in to see us in person after school. We thank you for your continued support and look forward to a fabulous term.

Many thanks,
Year 4 team