

How can you help your child?

With their learning...

- Talk with your child about their school work, topics and the world around them.
- Hear your child read regularly and help them to learn spellings strategies.
- Visit the library and help your son/daughter to choose books to read for pleasure and to support their topics.
- Encourage them to use Mathematics, TT Rock Stars and Spelling Shed at home on a tablet or computer.
 - Please check your child's planner daily and initial it daily (in the weekly diary) to show that reading has been completed.
 - Sign the planner every week (at the bottom of the page) so that we know homework has been completed and that all communication between home and school has been shared.
 - Please help your child learn their times tables. You can find them in their planners. There are also plenty of APPs for tablets that are useful if used regularly – just search 'times tables'.

With practical issues...

- Ensure that your child has the correct P.E. Kit in school every day.
- Children should wear a tie with winter uniform.
- Children should not wear nail varnish or jewellery (other than a watch and / or stud earrings) for school.
- Don't forget that if your child wishes to have their ears pierced, the best time is the beginning of the summer holidays as it is Dudley policy that children cannot wear any kind of earrings during PE lessons.
- Long hair should be tied up for safety reasons.
- Please ensure that all uniform is marked with the child's name.

Homework...

- Homework will be set every Wednesday and is due to be completed by the following Tuesday.
- TT Rock Stars and Spelling Shed should be completed daily

English

Writing - Our topic will inspire our writing styles to include: adventure stories and explanation texts. In our writing we will concentrate on developing sentence structure and punctuation through a variety of genres including the correct and appropriate use of Alan Peat Sentences (APS). Weekly spelling tests (dictations) will be taking place on a Tuesday. All children will be given a copy of the spellings in their Spelling Journal.

Reading – Children will do guided reading within class which focuses on vocabulary, phonics, fluency and expression. Comprehension will be developed through targeted questioning and reading journal activities. Children are able to choose their own home reader which they can change as often as required. We encourage you to share these books with your child to help them gain confidence and develop a passion for reading for pleasure.

Computing

In Computing, children will be focusing on online safety and will develop their awareness of phishing, malware and plagiarism. They will also learn about the importance of balancing screentime to maintain wellbeing. In Computer Science, they will use Purple Mash to increase their familiarity with the coding environment and further develop their logical sequencing and debugging skills.

PE

3/4JC and 3/4MC have P.E. on a Tuesday afternoon, taught by a specialist sports coach. 3/4 DD are taught by Mrs Dorricott on a Thursday afternoon. All classes will be developing their movement and performance skills in Dance and developing their Hockey skills. Please ensure earrings are removed and long hair is tied up securely.

Maths

In Maths we follow the National Curriculum. This term we will be looking at: number and place value, multiplication and division, measurement using scales, temperature, mass and capacity, fractions, time, angles and statistics.

You can support your child's learning by encouraging them to tell the time, use jugs etc. to measure liquids and helping them to practise their multiplication tables on a regular basis. By the end of Year 4 all children need to have a rapid recall of **all** multiplication tables.

History

As historians, the children will be finding out about the raids and invasions by Vikings in Anglo-Saxon Britain. They will learn about different aspects of everyday life, explore the types of houses they lived in, the clothes they wore and the types of food they ate.

Geography

The children will be finding out where the Vikings came from and why they decided to settle in Great Britain.

Science

The children will be learning about 'Light and Sound'. They will be encouraged to work scientifically and set their own questions to investigate. They will be beginning to learn about 'fair testing' and why this is important in science.

PSHE

The children will be looking at the themes of 'What makes a community', 'How Data is stored and shared' and 'Money Matters'. We will also continue to reinforce our Rights Respecting Schools and the articles connected to the children's rights.

RE

The children will be learning about the Buddhist and Sikh faiths this term. They will discuss the meaning of Easter in greater depth and learn about growing up as a Sikh.

Music

In music children have the opportunity to compose and perform their own pieces of music using a variety of tuned and untuned percussion instruments.

D&T

Children will evaluate the best materials to make a Viking or Saxon purse using our sewing skills to construct.

Viking biscuits will provide a cooking opportunity.

Art

As artists, the children will research and discuss Viking art and use a variety of mediums to create a finished piece of work. Then we will explore Saxon artwork through the medium of sculpture and 3D work.

For your attention:

It is very important that your child's planner is kept safely and returned to school each day. This provides evidence at the end of the year of your child's progress in reading. Could you please comment and sign your child's planner weekly.

YEAR 3/4 NEWSLETTER Vikings and Anglo-Saxons

The Spring term will be split into two topics – Vikings and Anglo-Saxons.

During the first half of the term, children will be immersing themselves into the life of the Vikings; finding out where they came from, how they arrived and why they decided to settle in Great Britain.

After February half-term, the children will be learning about the lives of the Anglo-Saxons both before, during and after the Viking invasions.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Cameron, Mrs Cope, Mrs Davis and Mrs Dorricott