



Year 5 curriculum newsletter — Autumn 2024

Our themes this term are: 'Victorious Vikings' and 'The Water of Life'



Books we will be learning about

Autumn 1 – Viking Boy – *Tony Bradman*

Autumn 2 – The Hidden Forest—*Jeannie Baker*

Kensuke's Kingdom—*Michael Morpurgo*



English

This term in English, we will discuss and develop initial ideas in order to plan and draft before writing. Through our reading texts, we will write to suit different purposes, with a growing awareness of the audience, using appropriate features. We will also organise our writing into sections or paragraphs; creating cohesion by linking ideas within paragraphs.

Maths

We will read, write, order, and compare numbers up to 1,000,000, being able to round numbers up to one million to the nearest 10, 100, 1000, 10 000, and 100 000. Using a variety of different real-life problems, we will improve our written methods of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division before moving on to consolidating our knowledge of calculating with fractions.

Science

The human body— This unit will teach the children about how the human body changes throughout life. The children will learn about gestation, infancy, childhood, puberty, adulthood, slowing down and old age. They will compare the human life cycle with that of other animals and look at healthy lifestyle choices.

Forces— In this unit, we will explain that unsupported objects fall towards the Earth because of the force of gravity acting between the Earth and the falling object; identify the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction, that act between moving surfaces; and finally, we learn how to recognise that some mechanisms including levers, pulleys and gears allow a smaller force to have a greater effect.

RE

'What do the miracles tell us about Jesus?' Children will explore what the miracles of Jesus teach us. They will learn about what constitutes a miracle and the difference between magic versus miracles.

'How is Christmas conveyed through music and art?'—Children will examine art and music and how they are used by Christians to express themselves at the festival of Christmas. They will explore how art and music convey Christmas but also how they are used to express the meaning of Christmas.

Art and Design Technology

Our first topic is 'Architecture', where children will look at using basic shapes to place key features and form in their own composition. They will study Friedensreich Hundertwasser, and use this knowledge to create their own building design.

In Design Technology, we will look at mechanisms, and apply this to making a pop-up book.

History – 'Were Vikings raiders, traders or something else?'

We will learn about where the Vikings came from and why they invaded Britain, sequencing events according to their significance to different people. We will use different historical sources to explore and name Viking trade routes, before explaining why these were important to Vikings.

Geography – 'Why do oceans matter?'

In this topic, we will start by thinking about how we use our oceans, before learning about the significance of the Great Barrier Reef. After this, we will investigate the ways that humans have an impact on coral reefs and the oceans, before planning a fieldwork enquiry to understand ways that we can keep our oceans healthy.

Computing

Databases—Children will learn about databases and why they are useful. They will learn to read and create databases for a number of purposes

Coding—Children will learn more about coding. They will use Purple Mash and the Scratch website to create animations, games and presentations.

Music

Children will be learning about music inspired by the Vikings and will start to learn a new brass instrument.

Personal, Social, Health, Economic

Firstly, we will share our goals and aspirations for the year ahead. We will then explore the topics: Healthy eating, mental wellbeing, respectful relationships and basic first aid.

Your child's PE days are:

Tuesday and Friday

Important information:

Homework

We will set homework later this half-term and will use Google Classroom. It will be set on a Friday and due in by Tuesday.

Snacks and lunchtime

Please provide healthy snacks for play time; no crisps, chocolate, sesame or nuts

Uniform

Please see the [website](#) for correct uniform

Parent Hub

Please make sure you are signed up for [ParentHub](#) – this is our preferred communication method.

Brass

Brass lessons will be on Thursdays this year, and will begin on the 19th September. You will be given a loan agreement form, please fill this in and return to the school office.

If there is a concern

Please do encourage your child to tell a member of staff if something is worrying them. If this cannot be resolved, arrange an appointment to see the class teacher by contacting the school office.