



YEAR 3 AND 4

RED KITE

CLASS

Spring term

Welcome back after the Christmas break. We hope everyone had a restful Christmas and New Year. We are ready to get back to lots of learning.

Our main topic is: Stormin' Normans.

History

We will be learning about the Battle of Hastings. We will investigate why it happened and who the contenders for the British throne were. We will look at the Bayeux Tapestry and discuss what it shows. We will look at the Domesday book and how William the Conqueror changed Britain. We will explore castles and how they developed during the Norman rule.

Art

We will be exploring different techniques for producing media. We will investigate the story behind the Bayeux Tapestry and have a go at recreating sections of it using chalk pastels and sewing techniques.

Literacy

This term we will be writing:

Non-Chronological reports

Letter Writing

Instructional Writing

Comic Strips

We will be using Anglo-Saxon Boy as our class reader to support our writing topics.

We work on our grammar skills throughout the year but this term we will particularly focus on:

Word choice

Paragraphs

Dialogue

Linking pronouns

Question, exclamation, command and statement sentences

A range of punctuation marks

Geography

Our geography unit is an exploration of the local area. We will learn about where we live and how our local area has changed over time. We will be using maps and carrying out simple orienteering tasks to identify local landmarks.

Science

We will be learning about states of matter. We will learn about solids, liquids and gases and how these can be changed. During the second half of the term we will be learning about classification and variation of living things. We will also be learning about evolution and adaptation over time.

Design Technology

We are going to design and build a Norman Castle. We look at images of different castles and learn the key features of them. We will discover why they were built the way they were and why they were so important. We will select materials to make our models and evaluate our success.

Computing

We will be designing our own interactive toy. We will investigate what interactive toys can do and how they work. We will use Scratch to design our toy and simulate the interactivity we choose. We will explore how sensors work and try to incorporate this into our design.

Religious Education

We will be learning about Hinduism in the first half term. We will investigate how Christians and non-believers view God and comparing this to Hindu beliefs. We will be looking at the different representations of Brahma in Hinduism and what they mean. We will then be looking at the Easter story and how Easter is celebrated in the Christian church.

Maths

Multiplication and Division

Year 3 will learn their 3, 4 and 8 times tables.

Year 4 will learn their 6, 7 and 9 times tables.

We will learn to use the column method to multiply.

Year 4 will learn to use the bus stop method to divide.

Fractions

We will learn about tenths and hundredths. We will investigate how fractions link to decimals and how we can divide to find fractions of numbers and quantities.

We will learn how to add and subtract fractions as well as how to recognise equivalent fractions.

We will investigate how you can represent fractions and how to order them by size.

Year 4 will be learning to solve problems with decimals including problems with money and measures.

Problem solving

We will apply the above skills to solve problems with shape, measures and time.

Music

This term we will be focusing on composing our own music. We will listen to music that represents different emotions and events through time. Then we will be creating our own piece of music that represents the Battle of Hastings.

Physical Education

P.E. will be on Monday and Thursday. Children must remove all jewellery before P.E. lessons and long hair should be tied back. During the winter months, we will still be having P.E. lessons outside, where reasonable, so children should wear appropriate clothing for colder weather. We will be using our Real PE units in both terms. These teach key skills that can be applied to a range of sports. During our dance lessons we are learning a disco dance based on music from the 1970s.

P.S.H.E and wellbeing

Our PSHE focus for this term will be citizenship. We will be following our new scheme of work to consider why it is important to work as a team. We will also be exploring diversity and individual differences within our community and the wider world that we live in.

Homework

All children will receive a homework book which will include details of the homework expectations for the term. Homework will consist of: weekly times table and spelling practice and a reading comprehension task. The homework books are needed in school every day. All children should have a reading record. All of the children's reading is recorded in this book so it should come back into school each day. Children will receive a merit point for every five times they read. In addition to this, every time a child reads at home they will earn a marble for the class reading jar. At the end of the term, the children choose a series of rewards for full jars so as a class we will start to work together to collect marbles and earn reading rewards.

Reading

This first and second terms, we will be reading: Wulf the Viking.

We will read sections of the text together each week, learning how to read with expression and discussing challenging vocabulary.

We will use dictionaries and reading around the tricky word to work out meanings.

We will be summarizing our reading by picking out the most important parts of a chapter and making predictions regarding what may come next.

We will answer questions which involve scanning the text and retrieving an answer and questions which involve using clues to infer answers.

We will complete a weekly independent comprehension task.

We will also complete regular vocabulary building games and have a word of the day to use.

We will find out about different text genres and look at examples from them.

