

# Kites



## Curriculum Information Spring Term 2019

*Happy New Year and welcome back to the spring term! I hope you all had a relaxing festive break. Firstly, Mrs Barker, Mrs Currie and I would like to thank you for all the lovely cards and presents which we received at the end of last term, they were very much appreciated and already being put to good use. Thank you!*

Our key stage 2 topic this term will be 'Vikings - Invaders and Settlers'. Here is a brief summary of what the children will be learning about in each subject this term.

### English

During this term the children will be learning about a range of genres, starting with poetry. The children will share a range of Viking sagas and create poems from them. We will also study discussion or balanced arguments, non-chronological reports and narrative.

Every week the children will enjoy a Guided Reading session with their class teacher. The session includes reading, discussion, vocabulary and comprehension of books or texts, levelled to the children's reading ability. The main class book this term is *Odd and the Frost Giants*, which ties in with our Viking topic.

Alongside this we will also teach SPaG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) looking especially at verbs and nouns and verb tenses. Children will also have a discrete spelling lesson each week to focus on patterns and explore new vocabulary.

Reading books from the library will continue to be taken home. The children should be reading independently or to an adult every night. The children will have the opportunity to change their reading books almost every day as needed through the library system. If children would like to review any books they have read they can do so via the online library cloud system. It would be good to see every child doing at least 3 reviews during this term. We would like to see every child reading more this term and at least equivalent to 20 minutes every night.

### Mathematics

We start the term off by looking at perimeter of shapes and calculating using different measures. The children will convert between units of measurement and use this to solve problems involving perimeter.

Then we will move on to reviewing and developing multiplication and division skills using larger numbers. The children will work on scaling problems and harder correspondence problems to further develop their understanding.

We will conclude this section by looking at problems involving all four operations and use area and perimeter within this area.

Finally we will look at fractions and decimals, comparing and ordering and converting between them.

'Cracking Times Tables' test will take place every Friday. The children will be tested at their own level and will have to complete a test within 3 minutes with a 100% accuracy to receive a certificate and move onto the next level.

Please help your child with practising their times tables and also please ask them additional 'quick fire' mental maths questions whenever possible. The children should be working at Level 13 by the end of Year 4.

## Science

We will start the first half term by studying Animals including Humans. We will be finding out about the stages in the human life cycle and some of the changes which occur at each stage. We will be presenting data in graphs of different types and analysing what these graphs tell us. We will compare life expectancy and gestation periods for humans and animals.

We will then study light, recognising that shadows are formed when a light is blocked by an opaque object. They will investigate and record patterns in the size and focus of shadows produced. We will also investigate and test that light travels in straight lines and how we could therefore create devices which allow us to see around corners.

Following on from this we will look at sound, investigating how sounds are produced and travel through different materials. We will study how sounds travel to our ear and find patterns between the volumes of sounds and the strength of the vibration that is produced.

## R.E.

This term, the class will explore the impact that Hindu beliefs have on the life of a child, especially the 5 daily duties; Hindu family life and worship in the home.

They will explore the holy journeys made by believers; the reason and impact for such journeys.

Around Easter, they will explore the significance of the death of Jesus for Christians.

## Creative Curriculum (History and Geography)

Vikings: The children will find out about the Vikings from a range of sources, learning how to ask and answer questions about the past. They will find out about Vikings as invaders, Viking ways of life and Viking trade, recognizing why people did things, why events happened and what happened as a result.

## Geography:

The children will learn to locate the world's countries, use maps to focus on Europe (in particular Scandinavia) concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries and major cities. We will also look at sea routes taken by the Vikings and why they settled in certain places.

## Computing

The term will start with learning about internet safety. Then we will be investigating data, through the use of spreadsheets and databases. We will consider how both can help inform the drawing of conclusions. In the second half of term we will move on to looking at digital media and how films can be captured and edited using software.

## Art

This term we will look at textiles and printing techniques. The children will explore different prints and methods to produce colours for printing with. They will then explore textiles, looking at weaving and collage representations.

## Design Technology

Our learning will be linked to our History topic of Vikings. We will use techniques from the art lessons to complement purses. They will also design and print a sail for their own boat.

## Music

The children will learn about pitch and dynamics including timbre and texture of music. They will review work done in term one including duration and tempo. Finally, children will be exposed to notated music and use this according to their own experiences. We will be using Viking Saga Songs to support this learning.

## French

The children will continue to develop their vocabulary, skills and confidence in their French studies beginning with revision of numbers to 100 and general conversation.

### P.E.

Dance - This term we will be developing their movements to music working towards the planning and performance of a routine. It will be based around our theme of invaders and settlers.

Please could you ensure that the children have their P.E. clothes in school on a **Tuesday (indoor PE)** and a **Thursday (outdoor PE)**. They would benefit from having tracksuit bottoms for outdoor PE as the weather can be very cold during the spring term. The children will need shorts and T shirt for indoor sessions.

### PSHE

For the first half-term our theme is 'Going for goals'. We focus primarily on the key aspect of motivation. This topic provides opportunities for the children to reflect on themselves as individuals, particularly their strengths as learners and how they learn most effectively. During the second half of the term the theme will be 'Good to be me'. This theme explores feelings within the context of our important relationships including family and friends. It aims to develop knowledge, understanding and skills in three key social and emotional aspects of learning: self-awareness, managing feelings and empathy.

### Homework

Homework will be set on a Monday and is due in the following Monday. It is an extension of the work being completed in class and it will be explained to the children. It will be matched to the child's needs and ability and therefore children may receive different work to their peers on certain weeks.

Spellings are set on Mondays and times tables are set on a Friday, the children are expected to practise both their times tables and their spellings each week. It would be ideal if the children could have use of a dictionary and a thesaurus at home to help with completing their homework.

### **Homework expectations – KITES**

	Year 4	Year 5
Daily reading	✓	✓
Daily spellings practice	✓	✓
Daily mental arithmetic practice	✓	✓
English	Weekly (25mins)	Weekly (25-30 mins)
Maths	Weekly (25 mins)	Weekly (25-30 mins)
Science	At teacher discretion	
Other	At teacher discretion	

*As always, if you have any queries or concerns please come and see me.*

*Miss K Green  
Class Teacher*