



# Oak Class Newsletter



## Welcome to Oak Class

Welcome to Oak class! It is great to be working with your children again after the disruption we encountered in Year 2 - fingers crossed for a smooth year's sailing!

As you will may be aware, Year 4 is packed full of things for the children to do including a residential trip in the Spring term and a multiplication test in the Summer term. If you have any questions about our work this year or need to get hold of me, please do not hesitate to contact me.

## English

Between now and the Christmas break, we will cover a unit on poetry, two non-fiction texts and two fictional texts. The first of these units will tie in with our topic of 'Traders and Raiders' (see across) where we shall learn about Kennings and spend a few weeks writing our own version of a 'Norse Myth'.

After the half term, we will do a unit on instructions as the children will help write detailed instructions for brushing their teeth (so help them get in a lot of practise!). We shall also look at another narrative story where the children will develop their writing using 'Talk for Writing' techniques that we used in Year 2. Please feel free to encourage your child to retell the stories to you when at home as this will help to build their memory and support their final written work.

## Mathematics

This term, we will be looking at Place Value of numbers using four digits; using formal written methods for adding and subtraction; working out the perimeter of different shapes; and working on our multiplication and division.

At the end of the year, there is a multiplication assessment taken by all children in Year 4 using all the multiplication tables up to 12x12. In order to help them with quick recall, please encourage them to use the Times Table Rock Stars website when you get a chance as this will also help them with inputting the answers. If you don't have access to the internet, there are several games you can play using dice, a deck of cards or bits of paper that I have shown the children in class - get them to teach it to you!

## Reading

We will be reading 'The Snow-Walker's Son' by Catherine Fisher this term as well as doing comprehensions in class. Given reading is the key to good writing (through modelling sentence structure and word choice) and better understanding of Mathematical questions, we will continue the High Five reading challenge and ask your child reads five times a week so you can sign their reading record.

## Topic: Traders and Raiders

Following on from the Roman topic at the start of Year 3, we kick off this year looking at Anglo Saxon and Viking life in our Traders and Raiders topic. We will look at the History and Geography of the era through analysing maps and investigating how the people lived back then.

The children will build their own boats, design Anglo Saxon Brooches and recreate a warrior mask similar to the one found at Sutton Hoo.



## Topic: Burps and Bile

After half term, our topic takes a Science focus as the children investigate the digestive system and how to look after our teeth in Burps and Bile. We will have a visit from a local dentist and the children will be using different materials to recreate parts of the body. The topic will help the children understand how to take good care of our bodies - hopefully saving on any future dental bills!

## Religious Education

Our first unit of work is on the domestic church. The children will look at the family of Jesus and the importance of supporting each other through Christianity. We will also look at Judaism and the Torah, focusing on its importance to Jewish people.



In November and December, we will look at the sacrament of confirmation and then the build up to Christmas. This includes the story of the annunciation and the gift of Jesus to us all.

## General Information

- The children will be working with myself, Mrs Mac and Ms Long throughout the year.
- PE lessons are on Tuesday and a Thursday.
- Spellings and mathematics homework is set on Thursday and is due in the following Wednesday.
- Spelling tests are on Wednesdays

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to come talk to me at the end of the day or email me:

[A.Pickavance@stmaryjosephswool.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:A.Pickavance@stmaryjosephswool.dorset.sch.uk) .

## New Barn 2022

One of our main trips this year will be to New Barn Field Centre ([www.newbarn.co.uk](http://www.newbarn.co.uk)). The details for the trip will be sent out later in the Autumn Term and I hope to hold a parent's meeting early in the Spring Term to go into the finer details of what to expect.