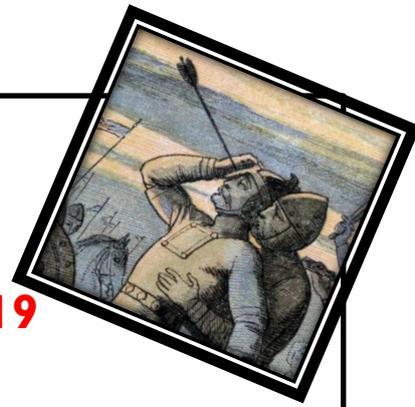


Whitstable Junior School



Term 5 Curriculum Information 2019 for parents in Year 4



Welcome to Term 5, which promises to bring longer, sunnier days full of exciting learning experiences for your children both indoors and out! Mrs Migden, Mrs Lay, Mrs Browning and Mr Seppalla join in welcoming Miss Oliver back to Year 4 and wish Mrs Kerr all the very best as she leaves us for new adventures in France.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to ask us or any member of staff on the gate in the morning.



What are we learning about this term?



Key Areas covered this term in Maths:

We will begin the term with a recap of the **four operations and place value**. This is essential to keep those calculation skills nimble! Following this, the children will be working practically on **capacity challenges** before moving on to another look at **shape and position including the use of angles to describe shapes and direction**.

Times-tables:

Look out for Tournaments on TT Rockstars as we are now challenging the children to take on opponents within the school such as other classes and year groups. They are loving the competition and seeing the outcomes of these Battle of the Bands!

We will continue to **check times tables knowledge every Tuesday** and will be trying to increase our speed to answer 13 questions in less than a minutes or the X Factor challenge of 60 questions in less than 3 minutes.



Key Areas covered this term in English:

During English lessons, we will continue to travel back in time but stay on home turf with the **Anglo Saxons**, exploring the rich descriptive language of one of the most important works of Old English literature; Beowulf! The children will be given opportunity to explore the text through **drama, character description and in writing their own version of a legend**. Time permitting (it's a short term folks!), we then turn to a fictional retelling of a factual event in history – the rise and fall **of King Harold Godwinson with Anglo Saxon Boy**. Using this superb text as a stimulus, we debate the best king to take the throne of England, explore plot and intention and compile **newspaper reports** on the events unfolding.



Reading at home:

Thank you for sharing a book with your child as regularly as possible and **signing their bookmark**, it really helps with their reading progress and self-esteem.

Spellings:

Last term saw Year 4 win Spellers of the Week twice (once for 4K and once for 4M). This term, let's try to up our game still further by helping the children achieve regular scores of 9 out of 10 or better to stand more chance of a dip in Sid's Super Spelling Sack. Spellings will continue to come home in printed format on Mondays and will be available to practice on Spelling Shed.



The History, Science, RE, Art and French:



The Anglo-Saxons:

The Anglo Saxon era was such an interesting time in our history and we are really looking forward to teaching the children **all about the fall of the Romans, Anglo Saxon settlements** and their construction and the final stand of the last Saxon king: Harold Godwinson against the Norman invasion led by Duke William of Normandy. Due to our delightful Forest School trips last term, we didn't visit Lullingstone but this term we intend to conclude with **a visit to Battle Abbey**: the site of the infamous Battle of Hastings. We can't wait!

Designing Saxon Brooches:

We will be continuing to develop our DT skills with the **design and execution of Saxon brooches** and will work collaboratively to make a miniature Saxon settlement. Start saving those cereal boxes!

Electricity:

In Science, we will be conducting (get it!) a number of investigations into **Electricity** including attempting to make a circuit, finding conductors and insulators and constructing simple torches.

The Easter Story:

In R.E, we reflect upon the **Easter Story** including Palm Sunday, the Last Supper, Good Friday and the Resurrection.



French:

In our weekly French lessons we start a new topic La Monde in which the children learn to talk about where **they live, the weather and the French names for familiar countries.**

PHSE:



Discussion in PSHE lessons will focus upon managing risk in familiar situations and the local environment, feeling negative pressure and managing this; recognising and managing dares, actions affecting yourself and others and people who help you stay healthy and safe.

It is not too late to become a Royal Native Citizen and work towards an award. In terms 5 and 6, the children will need to gather evidence of their determination and caring; this should be so easy for all the children as they evidence these qualities on a daily basis.

Here are a few extra pieces of useful information that we would like to share with you:

- Children are encouraged to bring a **healthy snack** for break time; this can be a piece of fruit or a cereal bar. If you prefer, the children can **purchase a fruit token** from their teacher in the morning for **40p** and spend it at the fruit café at break.
- **Homework for Literacy, Maths and Topic will be sent out on a Wednesday to be returned the next Monday.** Topic homework is based on a points system; we encourage the children to select their own activity each week to complete with the aim of achieving 30points or more over the term. **If there are any difficulties with homework or children are struggling, Mrs Browning runs a homework club during lunchtime on a Thursday.** Everyone is welcome and she will be there to support if needed.

Thank you for your support and best wishes from the year 4 team.

Dates for the diary:

Tuesday 23rd April - First day of term 5.

Thursday 23rd May - Class Photos

Trip to Battle Abbey – Dates and details to be confirmed

Friday 24th May - End of Term

Dates for
your
diary.....

We would like to wish you all a very happy Easter and thank you again for your support