

February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all enjoyed a break during half term and that you were all able to keep safe during the storm.

This term we will be continuing to learn about Anglo Saxons and Vikings, but our focus will now switch to the Vikings. We will be looking at life in Viking Britain and if the Vikings were really vicious.

Snack and water

I would like to remind you that free fruit is not provided to children in KS2 and due to the current climate we are unable to provide a healthy snack option to the children. If you would like your child to have a snack for breaktime, please send your child with a piece of fruit. Additionally, all children should bring a water bottle (filled with water only please) to school which should be kept in the classroom as we are unable to provide cups for drinks during the day. If your child has a packed lunch, this should be **additional** to the drink provided for lunchtime.

English

Pupils will be studying different elements of GPS (grammar, punctuation and spelling). This will help to raise the level of their writing. The children will be developing their comprehension skills of reading for information during guided reading. They also have access to a wide range of non-fiction books from our class reading corner for quiet reading and independent topic research. Children will develop their use of dictionaries and thesauruses to help extend their vocabulary.

English Fiction

Our focus this half term is 'Twisted Fairytales' and our key texts are 'The Wolf's Story' by Toby Forward and Izhar Cohen and 'The True Story of the Three Little Pigs' by Jon Scieszka. We will be using these texts as our main stimulus for writing; focusing on writing a persuasive letter about why villains in fairy-tales are misunderstood, using the villains viewpoint to persuade the reader. We will also be reading other alternative fairy-tales and these will be available in the classroom for children to explore.

Non-Fiction

Through our Science unit we will be learning about plants and how to look after them. We will use this information to create a persuasive poster using words and pictures which informs the reader of the importance of plants and flowers.

Learning Behaviours

All children in our school are required to maintain high standards of work and effort throughout their time at New Pastures. To encourage our children to continue developing the right attitude towards learning there are systems in place including rewards and sanctions. We always aim to focus on praising the positive behaviour demonstrated. Our dojo system is an effective method of promoting positive behaviour. We will continue to use the traffic light system to encourage 'green behaviour'. Children who display positive behaviour will remain on green. If inappropriate behaviour is shown, a warning is given. If the child does not make the right choice, their name will be moved to amber. Should the child immediately improve his/her behaviour and follow instructions given by an adult, their name is moved back up to green. Any more serious incidents will result in their name being moved straight to red. Any child who stays on green all week will result in a message sent to parents with the good news.

Mathematics

This term will begin our maths learning by exploring statistics and presenting information in pictograms, bar charts, tally charts. We will also be interpreting this information and answering questions about it. We will then move onto another unit about measurement where we will be looking at length and perimeter. During this unit we will measure the length of objects, add and subtract lengths and then measure perimeter. The main focus this half term will be fractions. We will be recapping recognising and finding halves, quarters and thirds. It would be helpful if you could also recap these concepts with your child. We will also be exploring unit and non unit fractions and then finding fraction amounts of objects. We will also be exploring equivalent fractions.

As you are aware multiplication and the learning of times tables is a key element of the Maths curriculum in Year 3. Each week your child undertakes a Soundcheck on TT Rockstars where we carefully monitor the times tables knowledge that they have. As the learning of times tables is so important we also have a big focus on this and we have a TT Rockstars competition each week. Therefore, we ask that each child accesses their TT Rockstars account at home so that they can full engage in this fun competition. Please let me know if your child has forgotten their log-in details and I can provide you with them.

Science

Children will be studying a topic about 'Plants'. We will be exploring the different parts and functions of flowering plants. We will also be learning about what a plant needs to grow well, this will be in the form of a scientific investigation. We will also learn about how water is transported in plants and the life-cycle of plants including fertilisation and pollination.

History and Geography

These subjects are all tied into our topic. We will be learning about where the Vikings came from and where they invaded in Britain. We will find out what life was like in Viking Britain and if the Vikings were really vicious.

Art and Design

Again linked to our topic, we will be exploring Viking life and how they were able to invade Britain. We will be designing, making and evaluating a Viking longboat. In Art we will also be studying Claude Monet and how he used lots of plants and flowers in his artwork.

PSHE

In the current situation we are aware of the importance of physical, emotional and social health. Therefore PSHE will continue to form a big part of our curriculum this half term and will be a key focus as and when the children return to school. Our Jigsaw topic this half term is 'Healthy Me'.

Religious Education

To link with the PSHE Jigsaw programme, we will be following the 'Discovery R.E.' scheme. Each year group will study Christianity and another World Faith throughout the year.

Year 3 will study Christianity and our learning challenge is 'What is good about Good Friday?' We will be exploring key events in the Easter story and why Jesus' crucifixion symbolises hope for Christians. We will also discuss how we can show love and gratitude to the people we care about.

Family Learning Session

Unfortunately due to the current situation and social distancing guidelines, in the eventuality we are able to fully open school we will be unable to offer any family learning sessions this half term.

Visits

Due to the ongoing global pandemic and changing guidelines regarding school visits we will not be going on a visit this half term. However, it is my hope that we will be able to go on a visit soon.

Miss Cooke and Mrs. Robinson

* Reminders *

PE kits

Our focus this half term is Tennis where we will be learning all about the sport and how to strike the ball. Children need to bring PE kits to school on Monday, in preparation for their lessons on [Tuesday](#) and [Thursday](#). We also ask that PE kits remain in school until Friday and that they are then taken home over the weekend. The correct PE kit of white t-shirt and black shorts is expected along with appropriate footwear. Please be aware that children wearing earrings, or other jewellery, will not be permitted to take part in PE. If your child has his, or her, ears pierced, please make sure earrings are removed for school or that tape/plasters are provided to cover the piercings during the PE lesson.

School times

Due to social distancing guidelines and to ensure the safety of all our pupils and staff in school we will be operating staggered start and end times to the school day. The times for Class 5 are as follows:

8:45—the class teacher will come out onto the playground to collect Class 5

3pm—the class teacher will escort the children out onto the playground where they will be collected.

Morning session: 8:45am-12:00pm

Afternoon session 1:00pm-3:00pm

We ask that you stick to these times and are prompt when dropping your child off in the morning and when collecting in the afternoon. This is to ensure we do not have too many people in the playground at once and that the entrances to school and the pedestrian walkways aren't blocked. Please wait in the allocated areas. We also ask that all adults wear a mask if they wish to speak to a member of school staff.

Homework

Homework is given out to all children on a Friday and will need to be handed in by the following Wednesday. Creative homework linked to our topic will be set each half term (see separate menu). Spellings will also be given out on Friday for your child to learn ready for a dictation test on the following Thursday.

Please can your child also read at home at least three times a week and make sure they bring their reading record and reading book to school each day as they are checked on a daily basis.

School Contact Details

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Class teacher: Miss K. Cooke
Tuesday am: Mrs L. Hughes



Class 5
Curriculum Newsletter

Spring Term Two

2021 - 2022

'Anglo-Saxons and Vikings'



If you need to have a word with your child's teacher please call the school office to arrange a telephone conversation for after school when they will be happy to discuss your questions or concerns.

