

# Year 4 Curriculum Letter - Autumn 1 2017

## Welcome back!

We hope that you have all had a lovely summer break and are ready for an exciting new adventure in Year 4! The children are settling in well and are already engaged in our Art project, 'Portraits', ready for the Art Exhibition in October.

This newsletter will provide you with information on the first half of the Autumn term. If you have any further queries, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Best wishes,

Miss Clark, Miss Blake and Miss Gale

Year 4 Team

## Topic - Vikings

Our topic this half term is the Vikings. We will focus on where the Vikings came from, how they travelled and what it means to invade and settle. The topic will feed into English, Art and DT, and ICT. We also invite you to develop your own knowledge about the Vikings through a home learning research project (more detail on 'Year 4 Homework' sheet attached).

## English - Krindlekrax and Beowulf

'Krindlekrax', by the award-winning author Phillip Ridley, is a very funny school-based story with weird and wonderful characters and an exciting and unusual plot. Through this text, the children will develop their reading comprehension skills and will have the opportunity to write in various genres. They will also continue to practise different spelling patterns, sentence structures and their ability to select language to engage the reader.

A retelling of the classic story of 'Beowulf' will enrich our learning about the Vikings and provide opportunities for extended writing, speaking and listening and SPAG (Spelling and Grammar). Our trip to see the play at the Unicorn will take place towards the end of the half term.

## Maths

We will start our Maths learning with Place Value, Ordering and Comparing numbers before moving on to Addition and Subtraction, reasoning and problem solving. We will be continuing our weekly mental Maths 'Rocket' tests. Please continue to support your child at home by helping them to practice their times tables and other objectives on their rocket card. They could also improve their rapid recall of mental Maths facts by using Mathematics.

## Science

This half term, our Science topic is 'Animals Including Humans' which includes the digestive system, teeth and eating and food chains. We will be consolidating our investigative skills, making observations over time, and drawing conclusions from what we have seen. We will also be developing our recording skills and our scientific vocabulary so that we can explain clearly and concisely more advanced concepts.

## Music

This year, the children will be having the wonderful experience of learning a woodwind instrument. A letter detailing this further will be sent at a later date.

### **Class teachers:**

**4JB – Josie Blake, 4VG – Vikki Gale (and Jo Lipinska), 4AC – Alison Clark**

### **Additional Adults:**

**Kathy Burston and Elaine Walters will be supporting in class.**

### Rough daily timetable:

**9:00-9:30** Guided Reading

**9:30-10:30** English

**10:30-10:45** Assembly

**11:05-12:00** Maths

**12:00-12.30** Spelling and Handwriting

**1:30-2:30** Topic/ICT/Music/PE/Science/PSHE/Spanish

**2:30-3:15** Topic/ICT/Music/PE/Science/PSHE/Spanish

### Dates for the diary:

Trip to British Museum: Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> - Wed 4<sup>th</sup>

October (day for your class TBC)

Unicorn Trip - Beowulf: Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October

HALF TERM: 23<sup>RD</sup> - 27<sup>TH</sup> October