

## Oracy



This half term, we will continue to use Oracy lessons to encourage children to practise applying their critical thinking and communication skills.

We will begin to combine our communication and listening skills with our historical knowledge to prepare a class debate.

This work will continue to be uploaded regularly to our class Seesaw journal, so please ensure that you have signed up using our class code.

## Computing



This half term in computing, we will be developing our **coding skills** using the programme **Scratch** to create, manipulate and debug online games.

## Home Reading

Children will choose an age-appropriate text from school to read at home—this needs to be brought into school everyday.



It is expected that children read at home every evening, for a minimum of **20 minutes** and make a record of this in their yellow reading journals—these will be checked daily.

Last term the children loved setting up our class book exchange and having the opportunity to share some of their favourite texts. We will continue to do this on **Monday** each week.

Thank you for your ongoing support with developing our reading area!

## Homework

Homework will be uploaded to your child's Google classroom account every **Friday** and must be returned to school by **Tuesday**.

Weekly, there will be a writing task, maths activity and set of spellings. Children are to complete the activities in their homework book.

Spelling tests will take place on a **Friday** and will be based on the previous week's homework.



# St John and St James C of E Primary School Class Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers of children in Year 4,

Happy New Year!  
We hope you all had a wonderful break and are ready to face the Spring term!



## Adults working in Year 4

Miss Lawrence  
Miss Uddin

## Humanities—History

This term we will be basing our learning on the exciting historical time period '**The Vikings and Anglo-Saxons**'.



We will be expanding our historical knowledge by travelling back in time to AD449, when the Anglo-Saxons started to invade Britain. We will then explore how the Vikings began to settle and find out about what life was like during the time period.

Our key question this half term is: '**What happened when the Anglo-Saxons and the Vikings settled in Britain?**'

We will begin by using our prior knowledge to build chronological timelines to help us explain when different events took place in our history. We will then move on to discover what life was like for Anglo-Saxons and Vikings, before finally exploring influential kings and leaders during this time.

## Science

In science, our topic is '**Animals including humans'**.

In the past, we have studied the roles and functions of human teeth and the digestive system.

We will now begin to expand this knowledge by exploring the human skeleton and discovering the names and functions of specific bones and muscles.

We will also be building on our prior knowledge of food groups and healthy diets; looking further at the nutritional value of food and considering how we can improve our diets. This will then allow us to make comparisons between human and animal diets.



## PE

PE will continue to take place every **Thursday**.

The focus for this half term is: **Gymnastics**.

It is essential that your child has the correct PE uniform for each lesson.



## RE and Values

In RE, our learning will be focused around the faith of **Hinduism** and we will be considering the question:

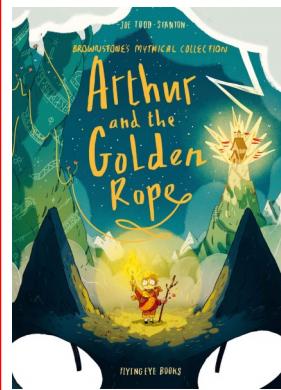
**'What is the importance of symbolism, beliefs and teaching in Hinduism?'**

We will be learning about different Hindu Gods, Hinduism worship at home and about key festivals in the Hindu calendar such as Diwali.

Our values theme for this half term is:  
**'Celebrating differences'**

**Why fit in when you were born to STAND OUT?**  
-Dr. Seuss

## English



Linking with our humanities topic on Vikings and Anglo-Saxons, we will be reading **'Arthur and the Golden Rope'** - by Joe Todd-Stanton.

In our first writing cycle, we will be writing diary entries to retell the story of Arthur's big adventure from his own perspective.

We will be focusing on mastering our use of subordinate and relative clauses to add extra information and will be broadening our vocabulary use by using thesauruses to create descriptive word banks.

In grammar lessons, we will be focusing on:

- Apostrophes to show possession
- Correctly punctuating direct speech
- -ed clauses as sentence starters
- Drop-in relative clauses
- Show me, don't tell me descriptions

## Maths

This half term, we will be focusing on the following fundamental:

### Multiplication & Division

- Recalls  $\times \div$  facts to  $12 \times 12$  (including  $\times \div$  by 1 & 0 and  $\times 3$  numbers together).
  - Uses short  $\times \div$  methods.

This half term we will continue to focus on our **6** and **9** times tables.

It is really important that the children continue to practise these regularly at home.



We will continue to use **Times Tables Rockstars** to encourage the children to apply their knowledge of times tables. All children will be able to access this from home - login details can be found inside homework books.

Once a week the children will have an additional arithmetic lesson, where they will have the opportunity to master skills linked to the four operations.