



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



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 you can see what we have been doing!

Computing

This half term in computing, we will be developing our **coding skills** using the programme **Hour of Code** to create, manipulate and debug algorithms.

HOUR
OF
CODE

Dear parents and carers of children in Year 4,

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



Adults working in Year 4

Miss Forman
Miss Torsun

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 reading journals—these will be checked daily.



The children have received new reading records. Every evening, they need to write the date, the name of the book, the author, the pages read and a short detailed summary of their reading.

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 topic task, maths activity and set of spellings. Children are to complete the activities in their homework book.

Dates for the Diary

Thursday 18th January—Trip to the Saatchi Gallery

Thursday 25th January—Maths workshop at Cardinal Pole

Friday 26th January—Class Assembly

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?'

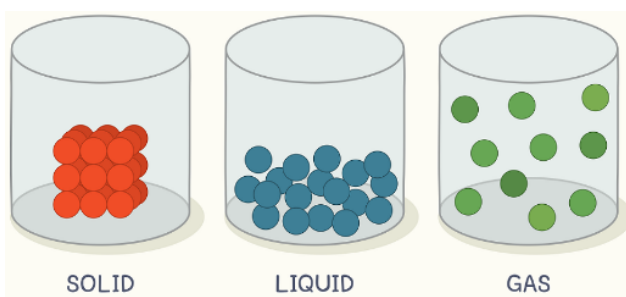
We will begin by using our prior knowledge to build chronological timelines to help us explain when different events took place in our history. We will then move on to discover what life was like for Anglo-Saxons and Vikings, before finally exploring influential kings and leaders during this time.

Science

In science, our topic is 'States of matter'

Building on our prior knowledge of solids, we will identify different matter and how they can be used in our daily lives. We will study how temperature affects solids, liquids and gases, as well as the following processes of change: melting, freezing, condensation and evaporation. We will end our unit by using these processes to identify the different stages of the water cycle.

Our key scientists are Daniel Fahrenheit and Anders Celsius.

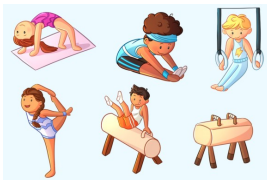


PE

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 PSHE

In RE, our learning will be focused around the faith of **Hinduism** and we will be considering the question: 'How do Hindus worship?'

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

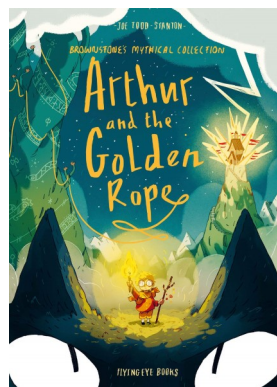
Our PSHE theme for this half term is:

'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 writing cycles, we will write an introduction to present the main character and the setting of the book.

This will be followed by a newspaper article outlining what the townsfolk think of Arthur. We will finally write a diary entry to relate Arthur's adventures.

In grammar lessons, we will be focusing on:

- Show me, don't tell me descriptions
- Fronted adverbials
- Authorial voice
- Speech
- Subordinating clauses
- Preposition phrases

Maths

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

Multiplication & Division

- Recalls $X \div$ facts to 12×12 (including $X \div$ by 1 & 0 and $X \div$ 3 numbers together).
- Uses short $X \div$ methods.
- Finds the most efficient method.
- Multiplies several digits.

This half term we will continue to focus on our **6, 7** and **12** 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.