



SUMMER TERM 2017

YEAR 4 NEWSLETTER

Welcome back after the Easter Break, to the final term in Year 4.

This is another busy term, with all sorts of exciting things to look forward to... read on!

We are all excited about the Class Residential Visit to The Gordon Brown Centre near Hook – lots of photographs to follow.

Some Curriculum Highlights

History – having spent a lot of last term learning about the Anglo-Saxons, we are finding out about the next lot of invaders who play a very important part in our history, namely the Vikings. We are interested in where they came from and why; how they came to these shores and what they did when they arrived. We already know they didn't wear helmets with horns on them... but how did they shape the story of Britain?



In English, we have already started looking at one of the earliest epic sagas recorded in our history, finding out about the hero Beowulf and all the gory detail that used to entertain our ancestors. We will move on to writing various types of recounts, followed by persuasive writing, then a brief look at stories from different cultures. We end the term with a personal favourite – nonsense poetry!

Our work in mathematics involves a series of revisits to the main maths topics we have already covered. There is an increased focus on reasoning and proving answers, and we will be looking at test questions and solving problems in different contexts. Underpinning all of this is knowledge of tables and we will continue to work through the Tables Superheroes Challenges, so please keep up the practice at home – singing/chanting, tables races and websites are all good ways of improving rapid recall.

Our Science topics are Electricity followed by Sound. There will be opportunities to build and test circuits, leading to building our own torches as a project. Adding to our musical highlights so far, we hope to design and build musical instruments, as well as learning about how sound travels and how we can cut out unwanted sounds.

We are going to be trying our hands at a third musical instrument in whole class Music, as we pick up violins and learn the basics with Mrs Bolam. In Art, we will do a little more work on landscapes and then link with the Vikings study as we build/make longships. We will continue to investigate the work of some other famous artists, trying out their styles and techniques.

In PE, we are delighted that we will be having some high quality coaching in Cricket, which will take place on Monday afternoons. CM Sports will continue to work with the class on Wednesday afternoons, focusing on athletics. We will fit in tennis and other summer games, too, but the timetable may need to be flexible, so an appropriate PE Kit should be in school throughout the week.

Homework – there will generally be two tasks per week, given on a Wednesday for the following Tuesday. This is alongside the expectation that children will be reading five times a week (and having you sign their reading diaries) and practising spellings (lists given on Monday, ready for test activities on Friday). And tables again – keep practising!

As always, if you have any queries or concerns about life in Year 4, please drop me a line through the Reading Diary, by phone message via the School Office, or by email – p.goddard@bentley.hants.sch.uk

Paul Goddard – Class Teacher

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