

Four Lanes Community Junior School

Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn 1 2017



welcome

4RD Mrs Davies, 4MC Miss Cade 4BB Mrs Bridge Year Leader Mrs Sale
Supported by our LSAs Mrs Harrison and Miss Hunt

Welcome to Year 4!

We have had a fantastic start to the year already and the children have been busy learning about what it takes to be a brilliant Year 4 learner. They have thoroughly enjoyed our PSHEE themed start to the year where we have explored diversity of cultures within our school and local community which you will have a chance to talk about with them on Meet the Teacher afternoon next week (Wed 20th Sept). Please remember that our doors are open and it will be lovely to share positive news with you as well as any concerns you may have. We look forward to working in partnership with you this year and thank you in advance for your support.

Main topics and learning this term:

Vikings

Sound

Our main topic this term is the Vikings. The children will be learning about a range of aspects of Viking life. They will be using a number of sources in order to research this period of history and will undoubtedly learn a great deal from our 'Viking' visitor! The children will be making Viking boats as part of our DT learning. This will involve creating 3D shape nets and selecting appropriate materials. We will be testing out how fit for purpose our boats are by sailing them on the pond.



In Science we will be learning about sound through a variety of practical investigations. We will investigate how sounds are produced as well as how they travel. The children are very excited about setting up the Bug Hotel that they designed during our move up days last term. The hotel will then form our longitudinal science study over the year as we keep an eye on who comes to stay!

We start our English learning this term with a narrative unit looking at issues and dilemmas. We will be asking the children to compare the text that we are analysing in class with other books they have read that have addressed issues and dilemmas. Later on we will be completing a unit on poetry writing and writing a non-chronological report on the Vikings.



In Maths we will be revisiting our place value knowledge before moving on to look at the four operations. We will then go on to learn about fractions and measurement, including perimeter. The children will benefit hugely from knowing their times tables inside out so please keep practising at home with your child.

Our learning this year is being linked to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The children are already familiar with the rights and are able to share and discuss them. We will be reviewing which of our rights we have learned about at the end of each day.



We will be looking to learn outside of the classroom as well as inside so please ensure children bring coats that match our brilliant British climate! Thank you.

UNCRC article focus: 29: I have the right to an education which develops my personality, respect for others' rights and environment.

How you can support your child's learning at home:

- Reading remains fundamental to your child's further learning, so please listen to your child on a regular basis regardless of their ability. If your child has Bug Club, please help them use it.
- Constant revision of multiplication and division facts will always be useful; Mymaths and Woodlands Maths Zone are useful sites.
- Please record any learning activities that your child undertakes in their Home-link Book and ensure these are in school each day.
- Ask them to be independent and speedy in organising themselves.

Homework:

This is set weekly on a Friday for return on the following Wednesday. This half term Maths and English homework will be set on alternate weeks. Please look out for this and encourage your children to work effectively, carefully but as independently as possible. Where they have received any guidance from you, please note this in the book to enable us to support them further in school.

A few reminders:

- PE will take place on Wednesdays and Thursdays this term. Please ensure your child's PE kit is in school on these days. However it is always useful for their kit to be in every day of the week; just in case.
- Our School Library time is on a Tuesday afternoon.
- If you have an hour or two to spare and help out in Year 4 we would be hugely grateful. Please contact your child's teacher to offer your services - it would be greatly appreciated!
- 2.45pm Wednesday 20th September: Meet the Teacher afternoon.
- 28th September: Viking Visitor and a 'Dress like a Viking day'.
- 7th November: Science trip to QMC – more information to follow.

Watch out on Parent Mail for more information!