

Four Lanes Community Junior School



Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter Autumn 2 2017

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

The children have made an excellent start to Year 4 and have enjoyed the variety of learning opportunities that they have had. Our Viking Day was a great success and their costumes were fantastic – thank you for all of your efforts. The children learnt a great deal and we hope that you were able to see how much they enjoyed it in their English recounts that came home. We will soon be starting to rehearse for the Christmas play and will get costume information to you as soon as possible.



Main topics and learning this term:

Vicious Vikings

Light

We are continuing to learn about the Vikings this term. The children will be learning more about the reliability of different historical sources and will be using this knowledge to help deepen their understanding of events in this era. The children will be learning more about navigation skills of the Vikings.



Unfortunately our QMC trip this week was postponed but we know that when this is re-scheduled it will give the children a strong understanding of light, building on the learning in class. The children will explore a number of concepts, such as shadow, reflection and sight, making the most of a wide range of resources the science centre has to offer for their experiments.



Our current English unit is historical poetry raps. The children are really enjoying exploring this genre and are showing some fantastic performance skills – we certainly have some enthusiastic rap stars in the making! Once we have completed this work we will be moving on to write explanations and non-chronological reports, again linked to our Vikings topic.



We are continuing to focus on the four operations this term, through a range of different contexts. Year 4 are having big push on times tables learning this half term so please help your child with learning them as much as possible at home. This learning is crucial in maths and will greatly help them, particularly when we revisit fractions work .

Our learning continues to link to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The children are able to talk about these rights in respect of their learning. This term's focus is Article 12: You have the right to give your opinion and for it to be taken seriously.



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 activities that your child undertakes in their Home-link Book and ensure these are in school each day.

Homework: reading, spelling and times table practice

Due to changes in our time tables, **spellings and times tables will be tested on Fridays.**

We will be sending home maths homework on alternate Fridays, for the other weeks we set a long-term homework project to complete. We are asking them to create a Viking scene in a shoe box. For example they might choose to create a 3D coastal scene with a long-ship arriving for battle or a furnished Viking hut. We look forward to seeing their creations!

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.
- Dates for the diary: 15th and 16th November – Parent Teacher meetings, 17th November Children in Need, 5th December lower school performance 2pm & 6pm, 6th December lower school performance 6pm, 14th December Yr4 Christmas lunch and 21st December Carols in the Playground 13.15pm.
- Science trip to QMC – more information to follow about the new dates
- 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! Thank you to all of our volunteers that visit us already!