

# Year 3/4 Curriculum Spring Term 2023

Dear parent/carer,

Happy New Year!

We really hope you and your families all had a fabulous Christmas holiday and feel relaxed and refreshed. We are very excited to begin working on our next theme which has a history focus. We will travel back in time 1500 years to when the Anglo-Saxons invaded Great Britain and look at their influences on everyday life. We have attached on the following page some useful information that may help you talk about the history work with your children. Both Southampton and Winchester have a rich Anglo-Saxon culture so would be worth exploring if you have time.

Kind regards,

The Year 3/4 team

## Key vocabulary for the upcoming theme:

Consequence Enquiry Cause Warrior  
Anglo-Saxons Long boat Invasion Conquest  
Civilisation Illuminated Myth Christian  
Light Shadow Reflection



## Theme

Our theme for this half term will be **Swords, Shields and Settlers**. We will be covering the following subjects:

**English:** We will be using a book called **Arthur and the Golden Rope** by Joe Todd Stanton to drive our writing. We will recount some of the adventures Arthur encounters on his quest and also use the structure of the story to create our own myth story. We will also be looking at **Beowulf** and producing a beautiful piece of writing drawing upon the legendary story. Throughout the Spring Term, we will be participating in the Hampshire Library Service Non-Fiction Book Awards this year.

**History:** We will develop our key historical skills of enquiry and thinking about the cause and consequence of events following the invasion of the UK by the Anglo-Saxons 1500 years ago. We will learn about the impact of the Anglo-Saxon settlers on Great Britain focusing on the art and other aspects of daily life.

**Art:** We will develop a knowledge and an understanding of the techniques used by the Anglo-Saxons when creating illuminated letters from the Lindisfarne Manuscripts. We will study the artist William Morris who was influenced by techniques used in the illuminated letters. We will draw our initial as an illuminated letter and illustrate it using different media.

**Computing:** We will select, use and combine a variety of software (including internet services) on a range of digital devices to design and create a range of programs, systems and content that accomplish given goals, including collecting, analysing, evaluating and presenting data and information. We will use search technologies effectively, appreciate how results are selected and ranked, and be discerning in evaluating digital content. This will enable us to create an interactive presentation using PowerPoint that informs an audience.

**Science:** We will recognise that we need light in order to see things and that dark is the absence of light. We will notice that light is reflected from surfaces and recognise that light from the sun can be dangerous and that there are ways to protect our eyes. We will recognise that shadows are formed when the light from a light source is blocked by an opaque object and find patterns in the way that the size of shadows change.

## Key notices:

- Please ensure children bring their planners in to school every day. These will be checked at least once a week by the class teacher.
- Y3 library day is Tuesday, Y4 library day is Wednesday.
- PE days are: Y3 Monday and Wednesday, Y4 Tuesday and Friday.
- Please make sure your child's PE kit is labelled and in school every day. If your child cannot undertake PE for any reason, they should bring a note explaining why. **As the weather is getting colder please make sure they have a warm, long-sleeved top in their PE bag.**

## Home learning reminder

The children should be heard reading three times a week and this needs to be logged in their planner.

The children should complete five sessions on Times Tables Rockstars per week, this should also be logged in their planner.

Spellings are sent home on Tuesday to practise and tested the following Monday.

Planners are checked by the child's class teacher every Monday, please make sure the planner has a parent signature. Thank you!

# Year 3/4 Support at home

Below are some ideas of what you can do with your child over the next half term to support the learning at school:

## Practise:

- Spelling tests will take place every Monday. Please support your child by discussing the current week's spelling rules with them and the spellings they are learning. In the back of their planners is a list of words they should be able to spell in KS2.
- Please aim for five sessions on TT Rockstars per week.

## Talk and explore:

Here are some example questions to generate discussion about what we will be doing at school.

- What is a myth? Are they fictional or non-fictional?
- What makes a good non-fiction book?
- How did the Anglo-Saxons influence modern Britain?
- How can we stay safe when using technology?
- How are shadows formed?

## Play:

- Explore myths and use drama and role play to recreate mythical stories.
- Explore the games that Anglo-Saxon children played- spinning tops, musical instruments, games with counters and dice.
- Using different technology- create a PowerPoint presentation or explore Scratch online.
- Use puppets and lights to make a shadow puppet show.

## Read:

- Please continue to read with your child at home and discuss the characters and the themes in the stories. When reading, please make a note in their planners.
- Over the half term, we are looking at the following books: Arthur and the Golden Rope by Joe Todd Stanton, Beowulf retold by Rob Lloyd Jones.
- Watch the three episodes of Beowulf from BBC Teach: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/english-ks2-ks3-beowulf-index/zfbhpg8>

# Year 3/4 Home Learning

## Spelling

These will be sent home every **Tuesday** and tested the **following Monday**.

There will be between 6-8 words that follow the rule we are looking at in class.

As part of the test, we will add two further words that follow this rule plus two words from a previous week's spelling home learning.

This will help us determine if the children have retained their previous spellings and are able to apply spelling rules.

## Maths

Maths home learning will be set via Seesaw on a Friday with the expectation that the task will be completed by the following Wednesday.

The tasks that are will be in line with what the children have been learning that week in Maths, or they may look ahead to what we will be doing the following week.

Here are some example questions to generate discussion about what we will be doing at school. Some of these will not be covered at the beginning of the term.

- What is the inverse of add? What is the inverse of multiply?
- If Millie started dancing at quarter past ten and finished at ten to eleven, how long was she dancing for?

## English

English home learning will be set via Seesaw on a Friday with the expectation that the task will be completed by the following Wednesday.

The tasks that are set will either link to the children's learning at school or they may be a spelling, punctuation and grammar activity or a reading task.

Here are some example questions to generate discussion about what we will be doing at school. Some of these will not be covered at the beginning of the term.

- Can you summarise the events from Arthur and the Golden Rope?
- What is the difference between past and present tense?

## Reading

This year we are promoting a love of reading, as it underpins all of the learning we do at school.

We expect the children to be reading five times a week at home. Please can **three** of these times be to an adult and **this needs to be recorded and signed in the planner every week**. We are happy for you to read to your child, share audio books, take turns in reading pages etc. but the most important thing is to talk about what has been read.

***Planners will be collected on a Monday, to look at the learning that has happened at home, and returned on Tuesday.***