

Year 3/4 Curriculum Spring Term 2025

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 to when the Anglo-Saxons began to come to 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 use 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.

Maths: We will be revisiting Number and Place Value, Addition and Subtraction and Multiplication and Division to consolidate learning from the Autumn term and introduce new concepts building on our prior knowledge. In this half term, we will be introducing a wider range of written methods as per the Calculation Policy.

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.

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.

Music: We will listen and respond to In the Hall of the Mountain King before learning to keep a steady beat in 4 metre. We will use word pattern and dot grid notation to create a rhythmic pattern in 4 metre and learn about crotchets and quavers. We will finally compose and perform our own beat patterns using our knowledge gained from this unit.

PE Days:

Fox: Tuesday and Thursday

Otter: Tuesday and Friday

Deer: Wednesday and Friday

Badger: Wednesday and Thursday

Library Days: Tuesday for all classes.

As the weather is getting colder please make sure children always have coats, jumpers and have a warm, long-sleeved top in their

Wednesday 29th January School Trip to Winchester Cathedral

Thank you to those of you who have already returned the reply slip for the upcoming trip to Winchester Cathedral.

Please can we ask that this slip is returned ASAP.

We are always looking for parent volunteers to help us run trips - please talk to your class teacher if you think you might be able to help out!

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:

Spelling:

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. Spelling Shed will have practice games for the weekly rules too.

Here is a list of the 100 words that children in England are expected to be able to spell by the end of year 3/4.

https://cdn.oxfordowl.co.uk/2019/08/29/13/54/08/76f1443d-9b6d-4030-be0d-25fcfef01438/SpellingWordList_Y3-4.pdf

Please aim for at least 3 sessions on TTRS per week. Please speak to your child's class teacher if your child has forgotten their logon details.

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.

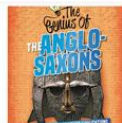
Read:

- 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>

Some Recommended Reads:



Men, Women and Children in Anglo-Saxon Times



The Genius of the Anglo-Saxons



Winter of the Wolves



Year 3/4 Home Learning

Please ask your teacher if you need a new code for accessing Seesaw, or to be reminded of usernames and passwords for Times Table Rockstars or Spelling Shed!

Spelling

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

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

Each week, the spelling words will also be assigned on Spelling Shed for children to practice at home.



Times Tables Rockstars

Regular practice will help your children become fluent Times Tables Rockstars. Times Tables are key for all year 3/4 students! See the back page of this leaflet for more!

At the end of year 4, all children in England now sit a Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). On Times Table Rockstars, the Soundcheck mode is an excellent way of practising for this assessment.



SOUNDCHECK

Beat the clock

Early Morning Activities

Early morning activities begin at 8:40am. Please ensure you are here on time to take part!

Maths and English

Maths and English home learning will be set via Seesaw or in the children's homework books on alternate Fridays with the expectation that the task will be completed by the following week.

The tasks that are will be in line with what the children have been learning that week in school, or maybe recapping topics learnt earlier in the year.

Reading

We love reading and expect the children to be enjoying a book at least 5 times a week at home. Please can **three** of these times be reading aloud to an adult.

We also recommend for you to read to your child to model excellent reading skills and to share audio books together as well. As children get more confident, they may want to read independently too. The most important thing is to talk about what has been read.

Please see below for a link to good questions to ask your child when reading together.

Why are times tables useful?

Square and cube numbers

$3^2 = 3 \times 3 = 9$

$5^2 = 5 \times 5 = 25$

$2^3 = 2 \times 2 \times 2 = 8$

Multiples and common multiples

Multiples of 3: 3, 6, 9, 12, 18, 21, 24

Multiples of 4: 4, 8, 12, 16, 20, 24, 28, 32

Area of rectangles, triangles and parallelograms

$(b \times h) \div 2$

7cm, 10cm

4cm, 9cm, Area = 36cm²

Simplifying fractions

$\frac{9}{15} \div 3 = \frac{3}{5}$

Finding a fraction or percentage of a number

$\frac{3}{4}$ of 48

$48 \div 4 = 12$

dividing by 4 finds one quarter.

$12 \times 3 = 36$

multiplying by 3 finds 3 quarters

Factors and common factors

3 6 product

1 x 3 6

2 x 1 8

3 x 1 2

4 x 9

6 x 6

4 8

1 x 4 8

2 x 2 4

3 x 1 6

4 x 1 2

6 x 8

3 6

1 x 3 6

2 x 1 8

3 x 1 2

4 x 9

6 x 6

Short and long division

$4 \overline{) 625}$

1 5 6

2 2

Adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing fractions

$\frac{7}{4} + \frac{11}{8}$

$\frac{14}{8} + \frac{11}{8} = \frac{25}{8}$

$\frac{25}{8} = 3\frac{1}{8}$

$1\frac{3}{4} = \frac{7}{4}$

Identifying prime and composite numbers

A prime number is a whole number greater than 1 with no divisors except 1 and itself.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20

Calculating volume

5cm, 3cm, 2cm

Volume = 5 x 3 x 2

Using algebraic rules

Rule: 5n - 4

1st term: 5 x 1 - 4 = 1

2nd term: 5 x 2 - 4 = 6

3rd term: 5 x 3 - 4 = 11

4th term: 5 x 4 - 4 = 16

5th term: 5 x 5 - 4 = 21

Short and long multiplication

853×32

$\frac{2}{3} \times 4 = \frac{8}{12}$

$\frac{3}{4} \times 3 = \frac{9}{12}$

Ordering and comparing fractions

$\frac{2}{3} \times 4 = \frac{8}{12}$

$\frac{3}{4} \times 3 = \frac{9}{12}$

Finding prime factors

5 2

2 2 6

13 2

Calculating ratio

A prize is shared in a ratio of 3 : 4 between Jamie and Dan. If Jamie gets £21, how much will Dan get?

Jamie : Dan

3 : 4

21 : 28

$\times 7$

Further Enrichment Ideas

Computing

Create an interactive PowerPoint that includes all your learning on the Anglo-Saxons.

History

Go for a day out: visit Portchester castle!

Although it was built by the Romans (to keep out those pesky Anglo-Saxon invaders), the Saxons settled in the castle once the Romans had withdrawn from Britain.

https://www.roman-britain.co.uk/places/portus_ardaoni/

Year 3/4 Spring 1 - Swords, Shields and Settlers

Ideas for Home Learning to Further Support Your Child

Science - Light and Shadows

Keep a diary of the shadows you can see in your garden at different times of day.

When are they larger? When are they smaller?
When are they clearer? When are they more dull?
Can you change the shape of the shadows somehow?

Art

Write like a Saxon!

Create your own illuminated manuscript letters:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wKAAUOGIh1E>

