

Our Learning: Year 4 Spring 1 2019– Invaders & Settlers



At school

Options for home learning

English	This term, we will be reading and exploring the novel 'Beowulf' by Michael Morpurgo. We will be deepening our understanding of persuasive writing in other forms and we will be creating short stories of our own using grammatical features such as fronted adverbials. We will be exploring how to develop our characters and plots more deeply too. We will also be studying a poem just after the Christmas holidays, looking at imagery and the structure of poetry in order to perform our own.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw a picture of Grendel, described by Morpurgo as 'the monster of the night' and write a character description to go with your artwork. Don't forget to use some really ambitious adjectives! • What other Norse legends can you discover? Do you have a favourite?
Maths	We will be continuing our learning on multiplication and division, moving on from practising our times tables and exploring their patterns to using more formal written methods of multiplication and division. We will be making links with our learning of perimeter to study the area of shapes and introduce fractions just before half term.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make a one digit and a two digit number using playing cards and multiply them using the written methods we have practised in class. • Measure the perimeter of your bedroom then calculate the area! • Look around your home - can you find anything that is already split into halves or quarters?
Science	In Science this term, Year 4 will be learning about animals including humans. As part of this topic, we will look at humans in more detail including the digestive system and teeth. We will study food chains and use scientific enquiry to carry out our own investigations and fair tests, drawing conclusions afterwards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate the difference in the number and type of teeth different animals have compared to humans. Can you think of a reason why? • Make your own paper food chain to show a producer and consumer.
Topic	Our topic this term is 'Invaders and Settlers' where we will be studying the Vikings and Anglo-Saxons. We are looking forward to our Saxon day on the 16th January! During this topic, we will learn about the Roman withdrawal from Britain, Viking raids, the conversion to Christianity and the art and culture of both Vikings and Anglo Saxons. We will also re-enact the battle of Hastings on our trip to Battle in March.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create your own Viking shield - can you follow the same design as a Viking pattern? • Search for a traditional Anglo Saxon recipe such as 'honey, oat and spiced cakes' and see what you think of old English food!
Other	<p>In DT, we will be studying woodwork - in particular how the Vikings used wood to create weapons. We will make our own wooden catapults, looking at joins and mechanisms to make them work!</p> <p>In IT, we will be using word to present data and information that we have gathered from reliable internet sources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can you see any old wooden mechanisms that are still used today? Can you study them and work out how they were made? • Research online the Norse words that we still use in the English language today - create a word document that explains some of them.

Key Dates

7th Jan - INSET day

PE: Tuesdays

8th Jan - Children back to school

Dance: Fridays

14th Jan - Clubs start

16th Jan - Anglo Saxon Day

23rd & 24th Jan - Parents evening

5th Feb: Young Voices (Choir members only)

6th Feb - 4S parent class assembly

Websites and

recommended books:

[TTRS](#)

[Doodle maths](#)

Recommended books:

The Wolves of Willoughby

Chase – Joan Aiken

Viking Boy – Tony Bradman

Daily Practice

Reading: vary independent reading with listening to your child read and reading aloud to your child for at least 15 minutes per day.

Use Times Tables Rockstars and doodle maths to improve your times table recall and your maths skills