

Class 4

The Bliss Charity School



Term 3



Welcome back!

We hope you all had a fantastic Christmas and we wish you a very happy New Year. This term, we are starting a new topic: 'Here come the Invaders!' The topic will cover both Terms 3 and 4, with a focus on the Anglo-Saxons over the next 6 weeks, then moving on to the Vikings in Term 4. Please read on to find out what exciting things we have in store.

Mrs. Sharp



Term 3 Topic: *Here come the Invaders!*



In English, we will start the topic by delving into the world of Beowulf and his expeditions across the Danish moors. We'll join him on his journey, using a range of drama techniques to explore the hero's brave battles with the monster of Heorot. Children will learn about the features of myths and legends and develop an understanding of the author's use of language for different effects. After the pupils have read the story, they will use their understanding to write their own Anglo-Saxon legends. Later in the term, the children will enjoy reading some Anglo-Saxon riddles before writing their own versions.

In topic lessons, pupils will begin by learning about the Anglo-Saxon invasions, where they came from and why, understanding the different tribes involved. Children will have the opportunity to design their own Anglo-Saxon Village, thinking about which key elements would be needed to live. The pupils will explore different types of evidence to build a picture of what life was like during Anglo-Saxon times. Then we will be looking at contrasting pieces of evidence as we consider how different perspectives can affect our interpretation of historical events. The children will also be taking on the role of archaeologists as they unearth the treasures found at Sutton Hoo. This will involve using mathematical skills to measure and mark out the size of the boat discovered at this fascinating burial site.

Our art and DT will be linked to our topic throughout the term. Pupils will be creating their very own Anglo-Saxon shields and stained-glass windows and making clay brooches using clay. Furthermore, we will be trying our hand at some Anglo-Saxon cooking.

In RE, we will be building on children's existing knowledge of Christianity and working creatively to enhance their learning. They will learn about the main beliefs held by Christians, their holy book and look at special places linked to Christianity. We will then compare Christian worship to Anglo-Saxon religions and their worship of Pagan gods, before understanding how Christianity survived in some parts of Britain during this period.

During science, pupils will be learning all about sound. We will experiment with different objects and instruments and explore how these create different sounds. Pupils will learn about how sound travels, pitch and volume and they will investigate materials to see which will provide the best insulation against sound. We will then use our knowledge to create Anglo-Saxon musical instruments.

In computing, we will be focusing on word processing skills, learning how to edit text, import pictures and create documents that have a purpose.

Other subjects ...

Mathematics - In mathematics, we will be focusing on place value and fractions to begin with. This will build on the learning from last term, moving on to looking at place value in decimal numbers and understanding what happens to numbers when we multiply and divide by 10, 100 and 1000.

We will also be learning to solve a wider range of money problems, using our skills of expanded and compact written methods for addition and subtraction. As we move further into the term, pupils will explore different units of measurement and learn to convert between different units confidently.

PE - On Tuesdays, Class 4's Real PE unit will focus on pupils' **cognitive** development and encouraging children to think about ways they can improve their physical performance. This will involve looking at how they can adapt their movements to work cooperatively before moving on to thinking about how we can change our performance in a competitive context, involving team tasks and game situations. On Thursdays, during our indoor PE sessions, we will be working on coordination, balance and partner work.

Helping your child at home ...

Homework will be handed out as normal on a Friday and it will be due in by the following Wednesday.

- English and mathematics homework:

English homework will continue to consist of regular reading (at least 5 times a week). Well done to all those who achieved their Bronze reading sticker last term – I know many are close to achieving this as well. Please keep up the great work!

In addition to regular reading, your child must continue to practice their spellings. It was fantastic to see the spelling scores improving last term. The spelling list for Term 3 will be sent home at the beginning of term and then each week your child will have a list of spellings to practise (taken from the termly grid).

- Learning Logs:

Pupils will continue to have learning log homework every two weeks, which will focus on a different theme – normally this will relate to topic being studied in class.

Learning log tasks are designed to be open-ended to give the children the opportunity to show their learning in a creative and individual way. A typical sequence for completing the learning log might be to research and take notes, plan the layout – deciding on what text and images to include – and then present the research in best. Please can you emphasise the importance of neat presentation using Kinetic Letters and careful editing at home, as this will continue to be a big focus in class.

My Maths will continue to be set, as and when appropriate to in-school learning. We were really pleased to see pupils were achieving highly on these tasks last term – well done! Although we practise every day in school, it is also important that pupils continue to practise times tables at home.