



Class 4JS January 2017

Happy New Year, please have a look at what we will be doing this half term.

I hope everybody had an enjoyable festive break, and is now ready for a term of hard work. Our main theme this half term is 'Why did the Vikings invade Britain?' and through this we will be covering the majority of our foundation subjects.

Literacy

In literacy we will be beginning by using our skills as readers and writers to write from different characters' points of view. We will then create our own adventure stories, and research and write reports about Viking life and longships.

We will also learn poetry to read out loud and use this as inspiration to create our own poems.

As always children will be given new spellings to learn each week on a Monday, in a format that will make it easy for them to practise each night in preparation for a weekly test the following Monday.

Numeracy

In numeracy times tables and 'Learn Its' are a major focus as we have discovered that we need them for so many different aspects of our work. We are also continuing with our problem solving to see how we use and apply our skills from different areas of mathematics in real life contexts. Another main theme in maths this half term will be fractions, decimals and refinement of our written calculation methods.

Science.

Throughout the term we will learn about electricity, electrical safety and investigate electrical conductors. We will then use this knowledge to create and use our own switches. We will also learn how to draw circuit diagrams using a variety of symbols.

RE

During our RE lessons we will be learning all about Christian Saints and Heroes, and explaining the commitment of key religious figures such as St Francis, St James, St Valentine.

Music

In music we will be exploring the works of Benjamin Britten. We will use these as a starting point to develop our performing and compositional skills, improvising and developing accompaniments to the well-known songs.

Computing

In computing we will begin by reviewing and extending our knowledge of E-safety. This will be followed by learning more about coding in order to control our sprites' response automatically when close to objects on screen. We will also begin to make our own times table game. Finally we will use all our IT skills to create digital art.

P.E.

P.E. will continue to be on Monday and Thursday and children will require full kit (plain red shorts and plain white

t-shirt) including appropriate footwear; jewellery is not to be worn on these days due to the safety issues.

Art/ D&T.

Our Viking theme this half term is going to provide inspiration. We will investigate weaving patterns, and design and make our own sample of woven cloth.

History & Geography

We will learn all about Viking daily life, beliefs and runic writing. Additionally we will learn about Alfred the Great and Edward the Confessor.

City of Culture - Hull-a-Baloo Theme Day

Once again, we will be hosting a Hull-a-Baloo Day during this half term, this time, focussing on the life of Amy Johnson.

I am sure you will agree this term is certainly going to be very busy and challenging, but enjoyable too!

I am always available after school to address any concerns you may have about your child, so please feel free to come and discuss any worries or questions you may have with myself or Mrs Hawksley.

Mrs J Stevens