



# Class 4JS

April 2017

## Welcome to the Summer Term

I hope everybody had an enjoyable Easter break and managed to recharge their batteries ready for another exciting and busy term. Our topic this half term will be 'Who shot the arrow?'

### Literacy

In literacy we will be beginning by looking at the legend of Robin Hood. We will use this story to write a newspaper report, and then write our own story based on the characters and features of the legend. Additionally we will be exploring viewpoints in writing by producing diaries and letters.

Our grammar focus for the half term will be apostrophes, their use to replace missing letters and the correct use to show ownership. The children will learn that not all words ending with an 's' need an apostrophe!

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

### Numeracy

In numeracy, times tables and rapid recall of number facts continues to be a major focus as we have discovered that we need them for so many different aspects of our work. We will be focusing on learning about fractions and different units of measurement and converting between them. 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.

### Science

In science we will begin by studying states of matter, including the water cycle and how water can exist in all three states, solid, liquid and gas. We will not only investigate the factors affecting melting but also recreate our own mini-water cycle.

### RE & Music

Within our RE lessons this term we will be asking 'What does it mean to me to be a Christian at St James' CE Academy?' To answer this we will be looking at how we belong to the Diocese of York and what other church schools are within the diocese. We will also visit a place of worship and find out more about it.

In Music we will be looking at the song 'Lean on Me' by Bill Withers. With this song we will compose our own accompaniments and vocal backing before performing them.

### ICT

In our ICT lessons we will continue with our online-safety learning when writing in a class blog before looking at advanced features of presentation software, learning how to use hyperlinks to create web style presentations.

### PE

PE will be on Monday or Thursday and will require full kit (plain red shorts and white t-shirt) including appropriate footwear because as the weather improves more lessons will be held outside; jewellery is not to be worn on these days due to the safety issues. This term all pupils will also participate in swimming lessons at Winifred Holtby, as detailed in the separate letter sent out before the Easter break. We will be swimming every day for 2 weeks

and therefore children will need full swimming kit, and no jewellery at all for this time.

### Foundation Subjects.

As already mentioned, the theme this term is "Who shot the arrow?" which will cover the Norman conquest and William the Conqueror's lasting effects on the country.

We will also investigate sources of evidence, including the Bayeux Tapestry. The class will use the tapestry as inspiration for their section of the World's Longest Embroidery for schools. The biggest challenge may well be the answer to: What would you include?

Once again, a busy and challenging half term, but enjoyable too!

### Class information

All children will be expected to read everyday at home. Regular reading practice will help your child not only with their reading but also their writing in literacy and other subject areas. If ever your child has forgotten their school reading book, please record any other reading they have done in their reading record or in a note to myself – this does count towards their weekly reading. Additionally your child has personalised times tables they need to learn to enable them to take part in the whole school maths challenge. Being able to quickly recall times table facts is an invaluable skill so your support in assisting your child learn these is greatly appreciated. I am always available after school to discuss any concerns you may have about your child.

Mrs J Stevens.