

# Year 3 Newsletter

## Spring 1 - Vicious Vikings!

Welcome back!

We hope you enjoyed your holiday.

This term our topic is 'Vicious Vikings'. We will find out how vicious the Vikings really were, where they came from, where they invaded and settled, Viking art and culture and Viking daily life.



### English

In our English lessons, we will be inspired by the book "Black Dog" by Levi Pinfold. We will consider how language choices create different feelings in a text, for example the size of the dog and how it relates to fear and worry. We will write our own stories based on a fear that we have using the structure of Black Dog. We will focus on including suspense, speech and adverbials for time, manner and place. News reports will be written inspired by our topic "Vicious Vikings". We will also write an information text based on our science topic Light and Shadows.

### Maths

In Maths, we will be focusing on our place value knowledge and using this to order numbers. We will continue to practise our 3, 4 and 8 times tables and think of strategies to help us. We will be learning how to read a 12-hour clock, develop our understanding of time vocabulary, and estimate and measure time in minutes. Towards the end of the term we will be building on our knowledge of 2D shapes by identifying them and describing their properties.

### Science

This term we will be learning about light and shadow. We will learn how we use light to see and that darkness is the absence of light. We will see how light is reflected from different surfaces and we will learn about the dangers of the light from the sun. We will also make shadow puppets using different materials to learn whether they are opaque, translucent or transparent.

### Topic

Our main topic focus this term is History. We will be finding out about Viking invaders and settlers in Britain between 790CE and 1066CE. We will learn about the other places that the Vikings explored; some as far away as North America! Also, we will look at what Vikings took on board their ships, Viking homes and Viking daily life.

We will use historical investigation skills through looking at artefacts and documents to try to find out more about the Vikings.

In Art.

In Computing this term we will be learning about programming, with the goal of writing our own computer game using the program Scratch. We will practise skills of debugging and creating programme goals.

In RE we are learning about Judaism. We will begin by learning about the Synagogue, and considering our own special places. We will also learn about the celebrations Bar and Bat Mitzvahs and the use of the Kippah, Tallit and Tzitzit.

In SRE we will be learning about the importance of respecting peoples personal space.

### PE

This term Scarlet will continue to go swimming every Friday afternoon. Please make sure your child has the correct swimming kit or they will not be allowed to swim. This will be their last term. We will also be developing our gymnastics skills this term on a Wednesday afternoon. Children need to wear black or navy jogging bottoms or shorts and a plain white t-shirt. This needs to be separate to their school uniform and not worn underneath their uniform. Please make sure your child has their name written in all of their clothing.

### Home learning

Home Learning will be issued on a Friday and due back in the following Wednesday. Your child will have one piece of literacy homework and one piece of maths homework. We will also be giving out a project related to our topic "Vicious Vikings" due back on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February. Please encourage your child to read daily. Your child's book will be changed every Friday once they have returned their book. Please continue to practice times tables at home because these are essential skills which will be applied in maths.

### Learning Experiences

Thank you to all parents who have paid their £20 annual trips, visitors and workshops contribution. This enables us to create memorable learning experiences for the children, through the use of visitors, workshops etc. In Term 1, our visitor was rainforest man who gave us a presentation about skeletons.

In Term 2 we took part in a skipping and circus workshop as well as a visit from the police.

**If you have not yet paid your £20 annual contribution, please can you do so as soon as possible to ensure these visits can take place. Regretfully, if we do not receive enough contributions, then we will be unable to run some of the trips and experiences we have planned. Many thanks.**

If you have any questions or concerns please speak to your child's class teacher.

Lisa Andrews (Crimson Class) and Emma Ahlas (Scarlet Class).

### Key dates:

Year 3 coffee morning- 22<sup>nd</sup> January

Viking day delivered by a visitor- 4<sup>th</sup> February

Year 3 pedestrian training- 11<sup>th</sup> February