



Year 4 Newsletter Autumn 1

Saxon Settlements

What evidence can we dig up about how the Anglo Saxons lived?

We hope you have all had a restful and enjoyable Summer Holiday and that the children are ready to start their new journey in Year 4, kicking off with a history topic – The Anglo Saxons!

Fortunately, we have booked our trip to Hillier Gardens where the children will consolidate and gain new knowledge. On our trip, we will combine the fun of being a real archaeologist with lots of learning about this fascinating time in History. Throughout the rest of this half term, we will discover all about the lives of the Saxons before moving on to the Vikings after Christmas.

Dates for your diary

Hillier's Garden trip:

4JD – Monday 20th September

4MB – Wednesday 22nd September

4ZM – Tuesday 21st September

Village exhibition:

Thursday 19th October 2pm (TBC)

Extended Learning Opportunities:

To support and extend your child's learning, you could visit the local library and do some research on the Saxons. From this, could they incorporate their new computing skills and create an Anglo- Saxon PowerPoint presentation? Could they even look at Anglo Saxon artwork and design a pattern ready to make a piece of jewellery in one of our History lessons?

In Literacy:

We will start by reading the famous Saxon story of 'Beowulf' looking at powerful imagery and descriptions used in this famous legend. The first piece of writing follows on from the children's year 3 learning and they will be writing letters from the king to invite the knights to the feast despite the fear of the monsters lurking outside of the great hall. The children will learn persuasive skills and really focus on new explicit vocabulary. Using all we have learnt with the language, we will then progress to rewriting a chapter for this story focusing on the meeting and defeating of a dragon! The children will be engaged with a lot of drama and discussion so that they can embed dialogue into the chapter.

In Maths:

To start the term, we will be securing the understanding of place value, which underpins the whole of the maths curriculum and is therefore key. We will then move onto using this knowledge to help with mental calculation before developing our written methods of calculating. We will recap the children's learning of adding and subtracting and then build on these methods to match the year 4 curriculum. To extend and deepen our learning, we will develop our reasoning skills to prove and explain what we understand. Every week, we will be testing on times tables and this knowledge will really help us later in the term when we multiply and divide. **By the end of Year 4, all the children need to know all their times tables;** please support your child at home to achieve this.

Leading Question

History - What evidence can we dig up about how the Anglo Saxons lived?

In History

This term, we will be picking up from where the Romans left (in Year 3) by moving on to discovering who the Anglo-Saxons were and learning about their way of life. This involves finding out about how and why they invaded and settled in England and what their lives were like. This year, the children will have access to an artefact box, where the children can have hands on experience of items found in Anglo-Saxon times. To further support our learning, we will visit the Education Centre at Hillier Gardens and take part in a fantastic archaeological dig to uncover more about Saxon history. We will then return to school and use the new knowledge to design and make a Saxon village. Depending on restrictions, you may be invited in at the end of term to look at what we have learnt.

In Design and Technology:

We will be covering this in a blocked unit and will be investigating moving pictures. The children will learn new skills and then will design and create a picture incorporating them all.

In Music:

This year, Mrs Beton will be focusing on the "Listen 2Me Ukulele" unit of work; this term all the children will begin to learn to play the violin as part of their PPA!

In Computing:

Building on from year 3, the children will be looking at learning new skills to improve their presentation skills when creating PowerPoint presentations. They will be focusing on layout, transitions and animations and always considering its appropriateness for the audience.

In Science:

During Science this half-term, we will be looking at what makes a thing living, how to classify living things as well as looking at how the environment affects habitats.

In French:

The focus for this half term is - J'ai mal. The children will learn how to say how they feel and then begin to explain exactly what is the matter and how they could be hurt.

In RE:

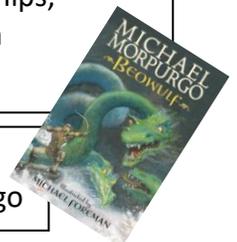
The children will be looking at Ritual SUKKOT / HARVEST. They will learn to describe the rituals practised during Sukkot by Jewish people and they will compare and contrast rituals and routines in their everyday lives.

In PSHE:

During this unit of work, the children will be looking at and discussing Families and friendships, particularly safe relationships and learning to respect themselves and others. The children will be learning all of this through a variety of picture books.

Our class text:

Beowulf – Michael Morpurgo



Reminders:

Homework

* There are 3 expectations for homework each week – evidence of homework will be monitored:

READING – a minimum of 3 x a week and this should be signed off in their reading book which will be checked every **Monday**.

TIMES TABLES – the children will work through the different stages of the times table challenge and therefore **MUST** know the multiplication and division facts for each times table by the end of year 4. They can practise on TTRS or on paper but a grid in their homework needs to be completed each week and handed in. There are grids that can be downloaded from the school website if they prefer to do more practice. These books will be checked and the children will be tested on a **Wednesday**.

SPELLINGS – The spelling book sent home, is to be filled in and the weekly spellings will be stuck in every Friday. The weekly test is also on a **FRIDAY**, which will be completed in the back of this book too so you can keep an eye on progress. Please ask if you need a new book.

	WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4	WEEK 5	WEEK 6	WEEK 7
	Started: 10/9	Started: 17/9	Started: 24/9	Started: 1/10/	Started: 8/10	Started: 15/10	Started: 22/10
	Tested: 17/9	Tested: 24/9	Tested: 1/10	Tested: 8/10	Tested: 15/10	Tested: 22/10	Tested: 5/11
YEAR 4	Y3/4 Statutory words	Words ending in '-sure'	Homophones	Homophones	Y3/4 Statutory words	Common Error words	Prefixes in/im
	history actually arrive island learn earth surprise early	treasure measure pleasure enclosure closure reassure leisure pressure	peace piece main mane fair fare ate eight	mail male sail sale bean been scene seen	answer believe build often promise group complete difficult	because people where were which when again their	inactive immature inaccurate impossible incomplete insane improper improve

P.E. Kits:

4JD	4MB	4ZM
Tuesday + Wednesday	Wednesday + Thursday	Wednesday + Friday

Please ensure your child comes to school in the correct kit (plain white t-shirt, plain black shorts, school jumper and trainers), hair tied back and wearing correct footwear on these days.

If you have any queries or questions, please feel free to email your child's class teacher:

4JD@orchardjunior.com

4MB@orchardjunior.com

4ZM@orchardjunior.com

We are so hoping that this year runs without any significant COVID restrictions! We recognise that your child will not have done a 'normal' year since leaving year 1! Here's to a fun, exciting and wonderful Year 4! We look forward to getting to know our children and their families over the coming months.

Many thanks for your support. The Year 4 Team