



## Class 6 Spring 2 Term Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well didn't that half-term go fast! The children are now over half way through Class 6 - can you believe it?! I hope you all had a lovely break. Last half-term was full of so much fun yet lots and lots of learning! I think it's fair to say that the children thoroughly enjoyed the theme 'Australia' - it was certainly my favourite so far this year. The children have returned this week very enthusiastic towards our new theme 'Vikings' as this will be what much of our learning throughout the curriculum will be centred around.

The aim of this newsletter is to give you an insight into what we will be learning about this term in each curriculum area, as well as giving you any further key information, Please let me know if you have any further questions and remember that my door is always open. I am always very happy to help. 😊

On Tuesdays 1.15pm - 3.40pm and Wednesday 2.30pm-3.40pm, I will spend time out of the classroom (PPA) and therefore the children will be taught by Mrs Tuxford.

We are also very lucky to have some extra classroom support from Mrs Tuxford and Mrs Watts this half-term during numerous sessions throughout the week. During morning lessons, they will support children within the classroom alongside myself and during afternoon lessons they will work closely with groups of children for some intervention sessions.

### SATs information:

The SATs booster sessions continue to be very popular which is great to see! Huge thanks to Mr Mac, Miss Farrell, Mrs Stocks, Mrs Tuxford and Mrs Rankin for the support with these.

As the SATs tests are rapidly approaching, I have scheduled a SATs information meeting to take place on **Monday 26th February** in Class 5 straight after school. Time during this session will be spent going through the timetable for SATs week, looking at example papers and questions as well as some useful resources and ideas of what you could be doing at home to support your child. Please don't worry if you're unable to attend as I will be posting all the information shared after on Yammer.

In addition, I have shared some information about some CGP SATs revision guides which we are able to buy as a school at a significantly discounted price. These are now available for you to order on sQuid. A sample of these will also be available for you to have a look at during the SATs information meeting on Monday. These are brilliant to use when doing any revision at home and will especially come in handy over the Easter holidays. If you are interested in buying these books, they are available to purchase on sQuid **until the end of Thursday 29th February 2024**. The order will be placed the next day.

### General information:

Please ensure that your child brings water in a labelled reusable drinks bottle and that they have a healthy snack for morning break and/or afternoon break. If they bring it in a snack pot, please ensure these are named. No crisps, chocolate, sweets or snacks containing nuts!

Please ensure sure all items of clothing - especially jumpers, cardigans and coats - are named.



**SPELLINGS:** Each Friday the children will be given a new list of ten spellings which they need to spend the week practicing ahead of their test on the following Friday. These will be differentiated according to the children's learning needs - your child will be told which group they are in. Please spend time practicing these as the children will be tested on them the following Friday. Spelling lists will be uploaded onto Viva Exchange. I strongly advise you to use Spelling Shed to practice! Logins are stuck in the back of the children's reading records. This can be downloaded from the App store for a one-off payment of £2.99 or for free via the web browser.

**READING:** It is expected that the children do at least four reads per week with an adult. I understand that by this age your child may be able to read independently but there is a massive benefit from reading with adults, so I encourage this as much as possible. You could ask them questions about the characters' feelings and actions and why they are doing things; you could tell them what words and phrases mean and even ask them to predict what might happen next! These are the kind of skills which the children need for comprehension tasks and assessments. Each time you read with your child at home, please record this in their reading record. I will be checking the four reads on a Friday. Can your child reach 100, 200 or even 300 reads before the end of the year?

**HOMEWORK:** Homework tasks are posted on Viva Exchange. They are provided in order to complement and support learning which has taken place within the classroom that week.

Spellings, reading and times table practice is expected and compulsory each week.

**PE:** This half term PE sessions will be on a Thursday and Friday. Both of these sessions will be delivered by our specialised PE coaches. Please could children with long hair bring bobbles, or preferably, have their hair tied back on these days. With earrings, if the children cannot remove them for themselves, could they kindly not wear them on PE days. If this is not possible, please could you send in tape/plasters for the children to wear over the earrings for the session.

Our topic for Spring 2 is 'Vikings'

**English (reading):** Within our reading lessons this half-term, we will be focusing on the text 'Viking Boy' by Katherine Rundell. The lessons will provide opportunities for the children to develop their comprehension skills.

**English (writing):** Within these lessons this half-term, the children will be writing to entertain with a focus on characterisation and narrative voice. In addition, they will be writing an explanation text which will link closely to an experiment we will conduct in our science lessons. Discreet grammar and punctuations will be taught during the lessons building up to writing these.

**Maths:** Within our maths lessons, we will be following the White Rose Maths scheme. Key mathematical concepts covered this half-term include fractions, decimals and percentages; area, perimeter and volume; and statistics. Children will also be given plenty of opportunities to develop their mathematical reasoning and problem-solving skills.

Across the year, we will continue practicing our times tables to ensure that children know the multiplication and corresponding division facts up to 12x12 fluently. Times Table Rock Stars is a fantastic website which children can use to practice their times tables through fun games and challenges! Your child's password is stuck on the inside the front cover of their reading diary.

**Science:** In Science this half term, the children will learn about electricity - developing on their knowledge from Yr4. By the end of the unit they will be able to draw scientific diagrams of a circuit, able to explain how voltage affects the brightness of a bulb, know how to plan a fair test to investigate variations in how components function and explain what renewable and non-renewable energy is.



**History:** Within our History lessons, we will begin by investigating stereotypical images of Vikings and finding out what makes the Vikings' boats so special. Following this, they will compare two very contrasting accounts of the Vikings written by different people, at the same time, and will try to work out why they differed. Then the children will explore how the Vikings tried to take over the country - this will encapsulate the struggle between the Anglo-Saxons and the Vikings in a way that really makes them think about the dynamics of the conflict. Moving on, we will then explore how recent excavations have changed our view of the Vikings - showing them in a more positive light. Additionally, we will consider what we can learn about Viking settlement by studying place-name endings. This will involve the use of maps of Lincolnshire and the York area. Finally, we will spend time considering whether the Vikings were raiders or settlers.

**RE:** This half-term Class 6's RE topic is Salvation. The big question is 'What difference does the resurrection make to Christians?' A key part of RE will be giving children the chance to reflect, pose and answer interesting and thoughtful questions.

**PSHE:** This half-term within PSHE we will be focusing on safety and the changing body. More specifically, we will be learning about alcohol, critical digital consumers, social media and first aid. RSE lessons will also take place this half-term - more information about this will be provided.

**Design and Technology:** In design and technology this half-term, the children will research the design and shape of Viking long boats; investigate how sails have been used to power travel on water in different cultures; use trial and error to get better results and evaluate the impact of changes to their design.

**PE:** One PE unit will be tag rugby. Time during these sessions will be spent teaching the children the knowledge and skills required to play tag rugby. The other PE unit taught will be Athletics. Within these sessions' children will investigate ways of performing running, jumping and throwing activities. Through the use of different equipment, they will time, measure and compare a variety of styles of runs, jumps and throws.

I hope that this letter has been informative and gives you an overview of what we are planning to do during Spring 2. Keep an eye out for further information on the whole school newsletters but please let me know if you have any further questions and I will be more than happy to help.

Kind regards,

*Miss Whittaker*