

Tuesday 9th April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to term 5! We hope you have had a safe and relaxing Easter break. We are looking forward to another busy but exciting term especially with our plans to explore the key topic question:

Anglo-Saxons and the Vikings: Ruthless Raiders or Peaceful Settlers?

In this history topic, we will embark on a fascinating journey to learn about the Viking and Anglo-Saxon struggle for the kingdom of England and how England finally became a unified country. We will explore when and where the Anglo-Saxons and the Vikings came from and how they fought for territory and power which ultimately led to the formation of England we know today. During this topic, children will use a variety of primary and secondary sources of information to learn about the Anglo-Saxon and the Viking way of life including: food, clothes, weapons, longboats and longhouses.



There will be an **Anglo-Saxon and Viking Day** on **Wednesday 8th May** during which children will have the opportunity to dress up as Vikings or Anglo-Saxons and take part in a variety of activities to experience what life was like as an Anglo-Saxon and a Viking. Although dressing-up is optional, we would love as many children as possible to dress up and we do request that any homemade weapons be made from cardboard or foam only. Please do not feel you need to buy something new as the outfits can be made out of old bed sheets or scraps of material. Please see the attached pictures for costume suggestions.



Project

Last term, we were impressed by how hard children had worked to create some truly creative and imaginative projects about Earth and Space. Thank you to all of the families who supported their children in completing high-quality homework and projects. The topic for our project this term is **Anglo-Saxons and the Vikings: Ruthless Raiders or Peaceful Settlers?** and here are a few ideas for children to choose from for their projects.

- Research and create a factfile about Alfred the Great or King Athelstan.
- A powerpoint presentation about the Vikings or Anglo-Saxons explaining how each of these influenced or shaped Britain. Children should avoid putting too much writing on the slides – instead they should use bullet points, pictures and prompts on the slides to expand on each bullet point in their own words.

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- A non-chronological report explaining reasons behind the Viking invasions and the formation of Danelaw or an aspect of the Viking and Anglo-Saxon life.
- Create a piece of art/3D model of the Viking longboats/longhouses/weapons with a detailed explanation of the materials used to make them during the Viking era. Also, remember to label different parts of the model with a clear explanation of individual parts, for example, a wooden figurehead fixed at the front of the ship to scare enemies!
- A poster/ a minibook /a leaflet about an aspect of the Viking or Anglo-Saxon way of life such as: cothing/ houses/ longboats/ warriors/ food and farming.
- Research and present findings about the Viking writing system (Runes).
- A letter / a diary entry in role as Alfred the Great explaining how he plans to protect his land from the Vikings.
- A powerpoint presentation about Anglo-Saxon burial ground at Sutton Hoo.

Projects should be brought into school on **Monday 20th May 2024** for sharing in class.

PE

PE lessons this term are on **Tuesdays and Thursdays**. On these days, children should come to school wearing their PE kits instead of their usual school uniform. Track suits (navy or black) with trainers and sweatshirts for outdoor PE would be great!

Homework

Please find below the homework timetable for this term, with deadlines and the teacher responsible. In case a homework sheet is lost or misplaced, there are spares available in class.

Day homework set	Subject	Teacher in charge and deadlines
Ongoing activities	Reading	At least 3 times a week with an entry made in Home/School diary by parents/ carers or children themselves for every time they read. Home/School diary checked by Mrs Omar every Monday.
	Termly Project	Due on: Monday 20th May 2024 (Mrs Omar)
	TT Rockstars	Once a week. (Mrs Omar)
Tuesday Maths and English homework will be given on alternate weeks.	Maths	Due in: Monday (Mrs Omar)
	English	Due in: Monday (Mr Vaughan)
Wednesday	Spellings	Spelling test every Wednesday (Mrs Omar) ED-Shed (optional) to practise spellings. (Mrs Omar)

Your continued support at home with your child's learning is very much appreciated as time spent helping them with reading, spelling, timetables and other homework activities enables them to make good progress during the year.

Uniform

The usual uniform rules continue to apply – jewellery (except earring studs), nail polish and make-up must not be worn. Please see school website for details.

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SAINT JOHN'S

Class DOJO

Class DOJO will be used by the teachers for communicating reminders and information about whole school and class activities. We also use Class DOJO to send individual messages to parents. A polite reminder that information such as absences or changes in pick-up arrangements should go to the school office as it is not possible to receive and respond to messages either in teaching time or during evenings/weekends.

And Finally...

Please do not hesitate to come and speak to a member of Year 5 team if you have any queries or concerns.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs N Omar and Mr J Vaughan and Miss Bennett.

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