



Year 4 Newsletter Autumn Term 1 | Tuesday 5th September 2023

Resilience Respect Reflection

Sitwell 7 Values

Resourcefulness Relationships

Responsibility Risk-taking

3 Rules: Ready, Respectful, Safe

Looking forward...Year 4 Topics...

Invasion

In the autumn term, children will study life in Britain after the Roman withdrawal, learning about Anglo-Saxon and Viking invasions up to the Norman conquest in 1066. This topic is always a favourite amongst both staff and children, and this year, in design and technology, we will also be constructing Viking longboats!

To engage the children in this topic, we plan to visit the Royal Armouries in Leeds to explore the museum and take part in workshops related to our topic.

Road Trip to Europe

Our spring topic is geography-based and will take children across Europe, developing their map-reading skills and learning about the different landscapes and landmarks along the way.

To engage the children, we will be holding an exciting day in school: tasting some delicious European food, studying the flags of Europe and learning some popular European phrases.

An Introduction....

At Sitwell Junior School our aim is to promote a love of learning by providing rich, rewarding experiences through a creative curriculum. Through celebrating efforts and achievements, we aim to develop pride in the success of our pupils so that they are ready to face future challenges.

This newsletter is designed to give you an insight into the learning experience we will be providing for your child during their time in Year 4. We value our effective communication and strong links between staff, parents and children. Together, we can make a difference!

The curriculum at Sitwell Junior School gives children opportunities to learn, build on and develop new skills. Children are exposed to a range of subjects and activities that allow them to experience different topics and learning styles encompassing the Sitwell 7 Values.

Land of Hope and Glory

For our summer topic, we will learn all about our country. From studying England's physical and human features to finding out more about our industrial past, the children will become experts in all things Britain! To engage the children, we will take part in a St George's Day celebration, eating, drinking and taking part in all things English.

Further, we are planning on taking the children on an exciting overnight stay to Gulliver's theme park! Whilst there, we will take part in some fantastic activities such as shelter building and wall climbing as well as experiencing the thrill of the rides!

Reading....

At Sitwell Junior School, we aim to encourage children to acquire a love of reading. Part of this requires the children to be able to read fluently, so it is really important that you listen to your child read every day. This only needs to be for a short time each day, as little and often is the best approach when supporting your child with their reading. Our class reading books in Year 4 will be as follows:

Invasion – **Loki: A Bad God’s Guide to Being Good by Louie Stowell**

Road Trip to Europe – **The Storm Keeper’s Island by Catherine Doyle**

Land of Hope and Glory – **The Railway Children by Edith Nesbit**

This year, we are continuing with Marvellous Me as a way of recording your child’s reading at home. Through the app, you will be able to access a link to a form that should be submitted weekly before Friday morning. If you are yet to sign up to Marvellous me, please contact the office who will be happy to help.

In addition to this, your child should have login details to Reading Eggs, a computer-based programme which is tailored to your child’s reading ability. The site has a wealth of reading texts and questions for your child to work through. As well as accessing this in class, they will be able to do so at home, providing you with further insight into your child’s reading ability. If your child has forgotten their log in details, the class teacher can access these for them.

Supporting your child at home...

Our long term plans, outlining the objectives we will cover in our maths, English and topic sessions, are currently being updated and will be available to view on our school website very soon. If you wish to support your child at home, or to discuss their learning with them, please use the following link, which will take you directly to the relevant part of our school website:

[Long Term Plans](#)

Reminders!

P.E. Schedule

The Year 4 children will have two sessions of PE every week. 4NS will have PE on Monday and Tuesday, 4JB will have it on Tuesday and Thursday, and 4CD will have it on Tuesday and Friday. We ask that all children come to school in their P.E. kit on the days that they have P.E. PE kit is as follows: white t-shirt, black shorts/leggings or black tracksuit, and black trainers.

Twitter and Marvellous Me

If you would like to keep up-to-date with your child’s learning in school, then check out the school’s Twitter page. The account details are listed at the top of this letter. We also encourage you to track your child’s learning on the Marvellous Me app.

Times Tables

We encourage children to practise their times tables on **Times Table Rock Stars**. These skills are so important and are one of the key building blocks in maths.

Year 4 Home Learning

Autumn Term



Below are some home learning project ideas related to this term's topic, 'Invasion'. This home learning encourages the children to become investigative learners and to develop their enquiry skills, independence and creativity.

The first project needs to be completed and returned to school by **Monday 16th October** and the second by **Monday 18th December**. If your child needs any paper, or other resources that school can provide, please encourage them to ask their class teacher.

Project Ideas

- What did the Anglo-Saxons eat? Research and make something they would have eaten.
- When Edward the Confessor died, there were three main contenders for the throne: Harold Godwinson, Harald Hardrada and William, Duke of Normandy. Research each person's claim to the throne and write a paragraph to explain who you think was the rightful successor.
- Use a range of resources to create a knowledge organiser about the Battle of Hastings. Include details about key dates, people and events and a paragraph to explain why this battle was so significant for England.
- Imagine you are an Anglo-Saxon invader. Write a letter home to your family in Denmark, the Netherlands or Germany. Include details about the journey to England, where you have settled and explain any difficulties you faced.
- Use the internet to search for pictures of the artefacts found at the Sutton Hoo burial site, such as The Franks casket, purse lid and shoulder clasp. Create a piece of Anglo-Saxon art using the designs on the artefacts as inspiration.
- Use a range of historical source materials to research what everyday life was like in Anglo-Saxon or Viking Britain. Areas to research might include clothing, housing, food, culture and religion. Create a non-chronological report, blog or presentation to present your findings.
- Imagine you are a monk at Lindisfarne, who witnessed the Viking attacks on the monastery. Write a soliloquy explaining what you saw and include your thoughts and feelings about the attack. Record your soliloquy to share.
- Finish your home learning by writing a summary of the topic, explaining what you have learned about invasion in the early Middle Ages.

Please can you make sure your child brings their projects into school on the following days:

Project 1 – Monday 16th October

Project 2 – Monday 18th December

This will give time for the children to share their projects with the rest of the class before the end of each half term.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Berkshire, Mrs Nixon, Mrs Doughty & Mrs Smith.

The Year 4 Team