Year 4 Newsletter – Autumn Term 1



Dear Parents/Carers:

We are very excited to have the privilege of working with your children. The Year 4 team consists of: Mrs Naidoo, Mrs Raistrick and Lee.

The following is an overview of what your child will be taught in the first half of the Autumn term, as well as some general timetabling information. Please remember that there is more information on each year group page on our school website including our learning chronology.

Our big question for this term is '**Can learning from the past teach us to improve?'** We will use this question to draw links across the curriculum from science enquiries involving observations over time to reflecting on the impact of The Vikings.

In **English**, our first novel will be **The Saga of Erik the Viking**. Linked to our topic on Vikings we will use this fun text by **Terry Jones** to engage the children in their topic learning and throughout this half term we will be roleplaying a Viking longboat crashing in a storm, writing letters that reflect on our Viking adventures and planning our own Viking saga.

We will be continuing our **Reading** program: Destination Reader. We would like you to discuss the key skills of reading with your children (predicting, making connections, asking questions, evaluating, inferring, summarising, and clarifying). Your child will also receive their own Accelerated Reader book. This is a levelled text which should be instructional for your child. Once your child completes their book, they should return it to school. They will then complete a short comprehension quiz and receive a new book.

Our **Maths** focus this half-term will include place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. We will be solving word problems, developing our ability to explain and check our working out. We will also be taking part in maths investigations. Children will also be practicing mental math strategies and arithmetic with a particular focus on times tables. We will continue to have weekly Maths Ninja tests.

Our **History** topic will be **Vikings and Anglo Saxons 1066AD.** On the school website you can find a knowledge organiser. This contains an overview of key knowledge for your child's history topic this term. Please encourage your child to become familiar with the knowledge contained in the organiser at home, as this will allow for more focus on historical skills, rather than knowledge, within lessons.

In **Science**, our topic will be about **Living Things and Their Habitats**. We will investigate different living things and their natural habitats. Children will explore a variation of organisms and life processes using key skills of scientific enquiry.

In **Art**, we will be exploring **Storytelling Through Drawing**. The children will be learning to create images that tell stories and link images together through a story sequence.

Our overarching theme in **Religion** this term is: **"How did belief in God affect the actions of people from the Old Testament?"** We will learn about different way of celebrating holy communion, different Christian approaches to music and consider how Christians make a difference in their local community and stand up to injustice."

Physical Education will be on **Wednesday.** The PE sessions will be led by our sports coach Kleidon.

In **Computing** we will learning about The Internet. Children will apply their knowledge and understanding of networks, to appreciate the internet as a network of networks which need to be kept secure. They will learn that the World Wide Web is part of the internet and be given opportunities to explore the World Wide Web for themselves to learn about who owns content and what they can access, add, and create. Finally, they will evaluate online content to decide how honest, accurate, or reliable it is, and understand the consequences of false information.

In **PSHE** our topic is Being me in my World. This unit focusses on teaching children what their rights are and how to make the right choices. Children learn to understand why they should take responsibility to make the best choices for themselves and others.

Finally, in **Music** our topic is Singing in Parts. Children will learn about singing loops and will identify and sing musical loops.

Homework will be distributed with new spellings to learn each week. Spellings and Ninja Maths tests will be every **Friday.** Please read the homework carefully to find details of this half-term's project homework. This half term we would like to see some 3D work on The Vikings.
In addition to this, your child will be assigned **15-20 minutes of reading every night**. In order to prepare for our MTC test, children will be given a TTRS login and will be encouraged to logon to TTRS for at least 10 minutes every day.

We look forward to seeing at our Parent Meeting later this month where we will share more about the MTC's, Times Table Rockstars and other general information.

We are looking forward to a great year! If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact us at: Year4@stlukeslondon.org

Kind regards,

The Year 4 Teaching Team