



Yr 4 – Swans

We hope that you have had an enjoyable holiday and that the children are ready for an action packed year! Our main topic for the half term is 'Traders and Raiders' which focuses on using historical evidence to find out about the past, particularly Britain before and after the arrival of the Vikings. During this topic we will cover the following areas: writing reports as an onlooker who witnessed the Saxons' landing, and finding out about key dates. Using online maps, we'll plot the location of Roman shore forts and draw our own sketch maps. We'll make models of Saxon weaponry and jewellery and carefully carve runes using clay tools. When we learn about the Legend of King Arthur, we'll retell the story, and write character portraits about Alfred the Great. In addition, we'll write poems praising King Olaf, making sure they are complimentary, and learn about the everyday lives of the British and the Saxons and Vikings. Using maps, we'll identify the places where the invaders came from and locate Viking invasion sites. We'll research Viking beliefs and possibly take part in a scrumptious Viking feast.

PE lessons are on Tuesdays and Wednesdays for the Swans. Ideally the children will need a pair of jogging bottoms and a sweatshirt as well as their shorts and t-shirt as we will be outside until Christmas. We would be grateful if you could ensure that your child has a plastic bag in their PE bag for muddy trainers and kit! We do apologise in advance that the children will get muddy and will bring home muddy kit and trainers regularly!

- In French we will be speaking, listening, reading and writing using the vocabulary related to body parts and zoo animals.
- In Music our focus will be on dynamics, duration and rhythm patterns.
- In ICT our focus is on coding and online safety.
- In PSCHÉ our focus is 'Being me in My World' where we will establish the class rules and the reward systems we will use, acceptable behaviour around the school, the expectations of being a year 4, the importance of community, the qualities of a team player, joining new groups, and how we solve problems when they occur including the importance of compromise. We will also be looking at Rights, Responsibilities and Democracy.
- In Maths we will be following the National Curriculum. During Year 4 there will be a real focus on learning all of our times tables. Homework for maths will often be something that focuses on Times tables.
- In English we will link our topic work and focus on reports, character profiles, myths and legends, poetry, historical narrative.
- In ART we will be investigating patterns and print making, and using our sketchbooks to investigate artifacts.

Please feel free to catch us any time after school if you have any concerns or want to discuss anything throughout the year. We are always happy to discuss matters that are important to both you and your child. We look forward to a great year, with some very hard work but lots of fun too!

Mrs Criddle