

Year 5 Newsletter Spring One

Welcome back and a Happy New Year!

I hope that you have all had a fantastic Christmas and New Year. My name is Mrs Bradford and I am the new class teacher for Maple class, following Mr Ho's departure at the end of Autumn term. We also have Mrs Bingley supporting the class each day. I am looking forward to getting to know each and every individual child in Maple over the coming weeks. We have a very busy Spring Term ahead. This week we begin our new topic 'The Vikings', which will take us up to the half term break. Alongside designing Viking shields and making Viking longboats, there will also be an element of speaking and listening, where the children prepare their own short three-minute presentation to class. Please find below much more detailed information which will outline what we will be learning about across different subjects over the next half term.

LITERACY

In Literacy this half term, Maple will be using the book 'How to Train Your Dragon' by Cressida Cowell as a model for their own narrative writing. We will explore the ways in which the author develops characterisation in the text, and children will attempt to use the same techniques in their writing.

After further exploration of developing 'build up' in story writing, children will create their own stories.

In guided reading, we will be exploring 'There's a Viking in my Bed' by Jeremy Strong, alongside non-fiction texts, in order to develop comprehension and questioning skills.

Our class reading book is Varjak's Paw; I will be reading from this book to the children, at various times during the week.

Mathematics

Following a quick review of knowledge in the first week (covering place value, rounding, addition and subtraction), our main focus for the next half term will be multiplication strategies.

We will investigate different multiplication strategies, both written and mental and discuss the most appropriate strategies for different questions. Children will be encouraged to use supporting resources to aid their understanding of the strategies.

There will be an emphasis on weekly mental maths sessions, in addition to weekly times table tests.



SCIENCE

In Science this half term, our topic will be Properties and Changes of Material (2). Children will learn to group and compare everyday materials on the basis of their properties, and give reasons for the uses of some of the materials.

Key Vocabulary:

Hardness, solubility, transparency, conductivity, magnetism





Other Curriculum Areas

PE - In PE this half term, we will be focusing on developing dynamic and counter balance, these abilities will feed into our hockey skills sessions.

RE- In RE Maple will be learning about the Gods and Goddesses' worshipped by the Vikings, and about the Vikings' relationship with Christianity.

PSHE - Will be taught weekly, as part of a whole academy approach.

Music - Year Five will be following the age appropriate sections of the Charanga music curriculum.

Computing - Children will be completing their own power-point presentations to share with their peers.

MFL - Spanish will be taught by a specialist teacher for one session per week.

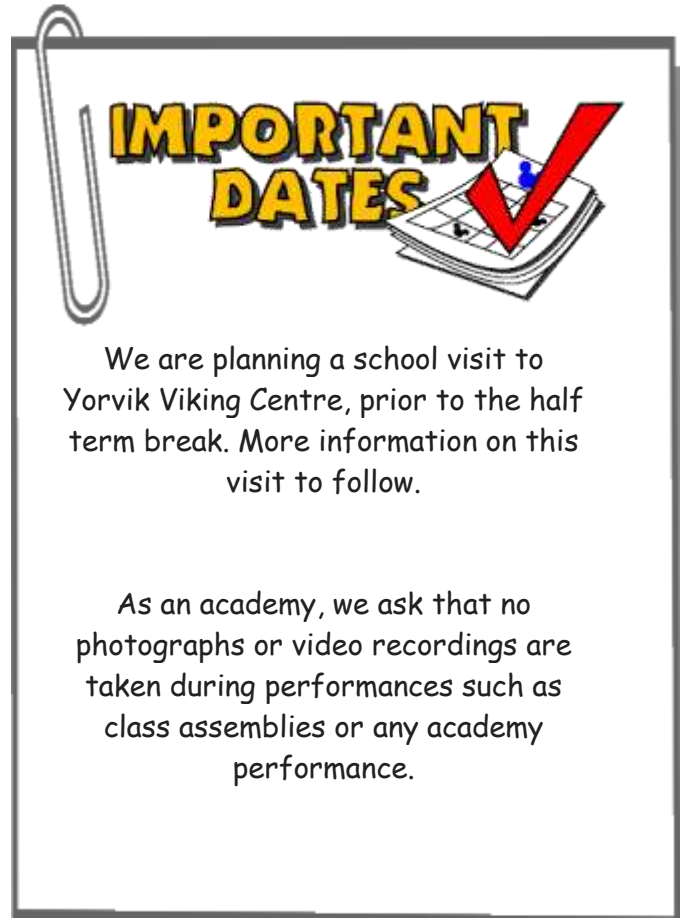


The Bulletin Board

Things to remember:

New spellings are given out every Monday and the spelling test takes place on a Friday.

A times table test takes place each Friday morning.



IMPORTANT DATES

We are planning a school visit to Yorvik Viking Centre, prior to the half term break. More information on this visit to follow.

As an academy, we ask that no photographs or video recordings are taken during performances such as class assemblies or any academy performance.

Maths link: <http://uk.mathletics.com/>

Literacy link: <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar>

E-safety link: <http://www.safetynetkids.org.uk/personal-safety/staying-safe-online/>

Topic link:



It's time to find out about

The Vikings

When did the Vikings settle in the UK and where did they come from?

The Vikings came to the UK in AD793, from the Scandinavian countries. They eventually settled in certain areas of the UK, which became known as Danelaw.



What were their homes like?

Vikings lived in longhouses.



You will find out about how settlements developed where the Vikings settled and the areas of the UK that became Danelaw.

How did Vikings communicate?

The Vikings had their own 'alphabet' called Runes. The Runes (letters) had straight edges, we will be finding out why, and deciphering some messages written in Runes. Runes can still be seen today, as carvings in caves and on Viking gravestones.

What did the Vikings use in Battle?

Shields, swords, daggers and most importantly, longships. As well as taking individual shields into battle, they would be used to line the outer hull of the longships, for extra protection as the longship arrived on land. You will be creating your own longship during curriculum lessons, and will find out more about how they were made.

Where were some of their battles and raids?

The battle of York and the battle of Wessex are some of the most well known and documented battles. The raid on the Holy Island of Lindisfarne is also remembered today.

When did the Viking rule end and why?

The Viking age ended in 1066 when the Viking raids stopped as a result of King Harald's death at the Battle of Stamford Bridge.