

## Welcome to Griffin Class

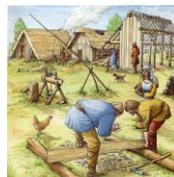
Welcome back to Term 2. We are very excited about all the learning we have planned and feel sure that the children will build on the great start they had in term 1. This term it is so important to encourage your child to read as often as possible and to practise their tables as much as they can. If you would like any suggestions about how you can support your child with either of these or anything else please do contact us - we are more than happy to provide suggestions.

## History

Continuing our learning about the Saxons, our focus will change to finding out about what life was like as a Saxon who had settled in England. We will handle artefacts which will give us clues, discover what they wore, what kind of jobs they had, what an Anglo Saxon house looked like and much more. We are also hoping to have a celebration day of all our learning in the last week of term where the children can come dressed as a Saxon to school if they choose to and enjoy a feast!

**Be ready, be respectful,  
be responsible**

**So you  
want to be  
a Saxon?**



## P.E.

In our PE sessions, we will be working on developing the skills of football and hockey. The children will learn drills for accuracy of passing and close control of the ball.

## Science

### **Year 4 - Electricity**

We will be exploring electricity and electrical circuits. Using electrical components, we will investigate electrical conductors and insulators, as well as making predictions as to whether a bulb will light up in different circuits.

### **Year 5 - Forces**

This is an exciting topic which is very hands on! We will explore gravity, air and water resistance and consider the effects of friction. We will even be creative with pulleys!

## English

The story of Beowulf is our key text this term, a well-known Saxon story retold by Michael Morpurgo. Using this as our stimulus, we will be learning how to write a kenning which is a type of poem, honing our description skills when we imagine what the monster Grendall's lair might have looked like and also have a go at writing an additional chapter to the story.

Of course we will continue with our group reading sessions, developing the children's ability to discuss texts and understand how they work, whilst providing lots of opportunities for them to read for enjoyment.

Spellings will continue too using their individualised booklets, so please do keep encouraging your child to learn their weekly words and bring them to school every day.

## R.E.

We will be exploring why some people believe in God and from this develop the ability to consider different reasons why this might be so. We will also learn the new words of theist, atheist and agnostic and their definitions.

## P.S.H.E. - Celebrating Difference

Our focus this term will be on how to show respect for different cultures and for different types of people. We will explore the concept of racism, using this as a springboard for the children to consider what their attitudes towards others is. Looking at explaining the differences between direct and indirect bullying will be an important point of discussion, particularly linking this to name calling and spreading rumours. Here we are keen to develop the children's sense of responsibility over their behaviour and the choices they make, discussing with them the consequence on themselves and others of some of their actions.

## Maths

The focus for both Year 4 and Year 5 is on multiplication, developing both written and mental forms. The children will also further develop their reasoning and problem solving skills applying their knowledge in a different way using such vocabulary as factors, multiples and cubed numbers. Exploration of graphs and tables, developing skills to calculate area and perimeter will also be a focus for Year 5 and Year 4 respectively. We will also continue learning the times tables and will expect the children to take responsibility for improving their speed of recall for these. Please encourage your child to use Times Table Rock Stars every day. We will also do a weekly mental arithmetic test on a Wednesday in which we encourage the children to improve on their previous score.

## Computing

This term, Griffin Class will be introduced to spreadsheets, explaining what rows and columns are and entering data into cells. We will collect simple data and create pie charts and bar graphs.

## Music

This term, we will explore a variety of jazz songs, including Three Note Bossa, improvising and performing with musical instruments.

## Art/DT

In term two, we will study the portrait work of Chuck Close before creating self-portraits inspired by his work.