



Viking Britain



Save the Date

- Return to School – Monday 6th January
- Year 4 Visit to Parliament – Friday 10th January
- 15th January – Martin Luther King Day
- 28th January – Year 4 Residential Meeting – 5:30pm
- 30th January – Tag Rugby Event
- 3rd – 9th February – Children's Mental Health Week
- 3rd February – Mid Year Reports
- 7th February – NSPCC Numbers Day
- 10th February – Parent Interviews (3:30-6:00pm)
- 11th February – Safer Internet Day
- 12th February – Parent Interviews (3:30-6:00pm)
- 14th February – Break up for Half Term
- 24th February – INSET DAY
- 25th February – Return to School

English. For the first three weeks, pupils will be exploring a range of stories from other cultures. We will be incorporating a range of language features including figurative language features for description, dialogue, ambitious vocabulary, a range of sentence openers and tenses to write a sequel to *The Boy at the Back of the Class*.

Pupils will then move on to focus on Biographies. We will deconstruct the features of a biography before writing our own biographies about a friend. We will complete this half term by exploring Kenning Poems. We will use a range of figurative language and description to create imagery.

Arts, Craft and Design: Fabric of Nature

Pupils will develop skills in textile techniques and explore the beauty of the natural world to create stunning visual art inspired by the striking colours, pattern and textures of bird and insect life.

Design: Technology Textiles: Fastenings

Pupils are tasked to design and create a book sleeve. They will explore a variety of fastenings for a design based on strength and appropriate use.

Music: Rock and Roll

Pupils will learn about the origin and features of rock and roll music, play the Hand Jive and Rock Around the Clock, looking specifically at a walking bass line, and performing a whole-class piece.

Religious Education Commitment: Lent

Pupils will engage with a variety of people about their beliefs and values and ask questions about the way commitment affects their lives.

Computing Spreadsheets

Pupils will begin to use formulas to automatically make a calculation in a cell. They will learn how to format cells, use the formula wizard and combine tools.

History

Were the Vikings ruthless or peaceful settlers?

As Historians, the children will learn about the key events in the Viking settlement of Britain. They will explore how the Vikings traded and learn how the Saxons viewed the Vikings after the raid on Lindisfarne. Using all of the information that pupils have learnt and gathered, they will evaluate whether they believe that Vikings were more ruthless or peaceful, using evidence they have gained to support their analysis.

Maths. This term, children will focus on Multiplication and division. Pupils will begin by exploring the relationship between multiplication and division facts for multiples of 3, 7, 9 and 11. Children are introduced to factors for the first time. They learn that when they multiply two whole numbers to produce a product, both the numbers that they multiplied together are factors of the product. For example, $3 \times 5 = 15$, so 3 and 5 are factors of 15. 3 and 5 are also referred to as a "factor pair" of 15. Children create arrays using counters to develop their understanding of factor pairs. It is important for children to work systematically when finding the factor pairs of a number to ensure that they find all the factors. For example, when finding factor pairs of 12, begin with 1×12 , then 2×6 , 3×4 . At this stage, children should recognise that they have already used 4 in the previous calculation, therefore all factor pairs have been identified. They will then move onto Length and Perimeter. Children should understand that kilometres are greater than metres and are used to measure greater distances. The focus of this step is to partition measurements into the number of kilometres and metres and make links with addition. Bar models and part-whole models can be used to explore this relationship and to support children with their understanding. The fact that $1 \text{ km} = 1,000 \text{ m}$ can be discussed, but conversions are not explicitly covered until the next step. It is useful to make connections with real-life contexts, so that children are aware when different types of units are used.

Science / STEM

This half term, pupils will complete the States of Matter unit before moving onto Animals including Humans.

Pupils will explore the digestive system in humans and teeth. Children will learn about the different parts of the digestive system and its function. Children will learn to identify each part and where it is located in the digestive system. Children will also be looking at the different types of teeth and their functions. Children have lots of opportunities to focus on their scientific skills to research, identify, group and classify.

PE / Games: Children will continue to focus on improving the quality of their gymnastic movement and develop them to create a simple sequence. They plan and perform sequences of contrasting actions and develop flow by linking actions smoothly and planning variations in speed. In gymnastics, children use skills and abilities individually, in combination and in sequence, with the aim of showing as much control and precision as possible. This unit lays the foundations for future gymnastic units, in which children will refine and combine their abilities and actions to answer set movement tasks. They will work with a partner on the floor and using apparatus. They will choose and adapt actions from their individual sequences to create sequences together.

In games lessons, pupils will be learning Cricket. They will be developing their accuracy of throwing and catching, their agility and the rules of how to play cricket.

PSHE: Pupils will complete the unit on 'Me and My Relationships' before moving onto Me and My Safety (Safety and the Changing Body).

This unit helps pupils to build an awareness of online safety and benefits and risks of sharing information online; the difference between private and public; age restrictions; the physical and emotional changes in puberty; the risks associated with tobacco and how to help someone with asthma.

British Values Focus: Tolerance **Birches Value:** Success & Resilience