

# Autumn 2

## Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter



Welcome back to one of our busiest but most exciting half terms! Halloween, Bonfire Night, parents evenings, London trips, singing performances, Christmas and lots of fabulous new learning! We can hardly wait!

### Topic/ Science

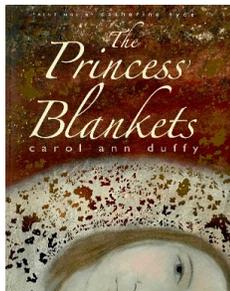
Our topic this half term is History based and is called "Invaders". Throughout this topic the children will be building on their Settler's (The Celts) knowledge from year three and learning how invaders such as Vikings shaped our culture and customs today. In science, we are continuing our focus on Biology and learning about the living things of the world. During this time, children will be investigating the classification system and comparing animals within some of the classes.

### Writing

This half term the children will be finishing their amazing explanation texts on creative clothing, inspired by "The Shirt Maker". After that, they will embark on information texts on crazy creatures. For this the children will use their Science knowledge to combine features of different animals to create their own fantasy species. Following this, the children will be enhancing the impact of their descriptive writing skills, influenced by Carol-Ann Duffy's "Princess Blankets". Finally in the festive spirit of Christmas, the children will be consolidating their explanatory skills to create a bio of a new chief elf for Santa.

### Reading

To link in with our invaders topic we will continue to read "How to Train Your Dragon" by Cressida Cowell. However, we will also be reading a variety of information texts about animals and their habitats so that we may gather useful vocabulary for our writing and begin to have an understanding of what our outcome (as mentioned above) will sound and look like. Later in the half term, we will be enjoying "Princess Blankets" by Carol-Ann Duffy. We will be looking closely at how the author has used language and descriptive techniques to entertain the reader and provoke emotional responses.



### Maths

The children have demonstrated that they are more secure with place value and the number system which has helped them enormously when moving on to add and subtract increasingly large numbers.

We will be continuing the new half term consolidating their multiplication skills then they will be learning new, more efficient methods and applying them in problem solving contexts. Following this, we will be moving on to division, fractions, measure and shape.

Thankyou for helping your children with their times table practice at home. It is really helping them to make those quick and valuable links in their maths lessons.

### R.E.

The children will be continuing to build on their knowledge of Christianity. The themes covered are: special places, festivals, holy books and finally symbols and meanings.

### P.E.

We are lucky enough to have Mr Mortimer take our PE lessons in Year 4. This half term the children will be consolidating the skills they have been taught previously and applying them in small match situations. After this, we will be moving on to football and tag rugby. PE is now on a **Thursday** but we recommend having PE kit in all week as sometimes we manage to squeeze in an extra PE lesson!

### Music

We still have the joy of Mrs Mattis leading our music sessions this half term. We are focusing on singing and performance. The theme of our Year 4 production is going to be "Inventions". The children will work towards telling the story of important inventions throughout history. This will be presented as a musical, with opportunities for: acting, group singing, solos, narrating and behind the scenes positions. We hope to be ready to perform in January.

### ICT

Children will be given the opportunity to use the internet to gather information for their crazy creatures.

Each week your child will bring home a selection of spellings and times tables to learn. We would ask that you help your child with these if possible. If you have any questions, please come and speak to a member of the Year 4 team.

Mrs O'Neill, Mrs Brown and Mr Winterman