

# Invaders: A wulf at the door

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to Year 4 and to the Autumn Term. We hope you had a lovely, relaxing summer holiday. This term, our topic will focus on invaders and settlers, with specific reference to the Anglo-Saxons in Britain. During our topic, we will: look at the chronology of settlement in Britain from the end of the Roman period through to the onset of the Norman invasion; explore who Anglo-Saxon invaders were and why they chose to invade Britain; understand Saxon lives, their beliefs and the legacy of Saxon settlement in Britain, eg. in terms of our language and place names.

Much of our English will cover reading comprehension and SPaG skills, including conducting research into various aspects of Anglo-Saxon life. The children will also have the opportunity to explore the tale of Beowulf and Grendel as well as looking at some different forms of poetry.

Our maths this term will have a strong focus on the children's understanding of place value whilst also delving into time, mental addition and mental subtraction.

Art lessons will include looking at the history of illuminated letters and creating our own designs, as well as making a single colour print of a Saxon brooch design while in RE, we will look at Buddhism and ponder whether it is possible for everyone to be happy.



## Independence and Year 4 routines

In line with our whole school focus on independence, we will be expecting the children to bring their signed key words books in each Wednesday. We will also have regular independent reading sessions so the children need to bring in their reading books **daily**. We would be grateful if you could support this by:-

- Reminding your child to bring his/her spelling booklet home before each weekend.
- Reminding your child to regularly read and change their book at school, ideally experimenting with a range of different styles and genres.

We provide pencils, rubbers, sharpeners and pencil crayons, so no pencil cases will be needed. However, an old shirt for use as an art apron will be required.

Children may bring in a healthy snack such as a piece of fruit or veg for playtime. Snacks and water bottles need to be kept separate from lunch boxes.

**Homework** will consist of spelling and times-tables practise, reading (preferably both to and with an adult when possible) and occasional *Flipped Classroom* activities as per our updated homework policy.

## PE

PE will take place on Wednesday afternoons and Thursday mornings. Please check your child has shorts and a T-shirt for warmer weather, some joggers and jumpers as the weather grows cooler and that their trainers still fit them. Please do also help them to ensure they always have the appropriate kit in school. We will send it home regularly so it can be kept clean.

## Future dates

Year 4/5 Maths evening – 19<sup>th</sup> September.

Open Afternoon/Evening – 26<sup>th</sup> September

FOCCS disco - 12<sup>th</sup> October

Parent/teacher consultations 16<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> October.

INSET – 22/23/24 October

if you have any questions or concerns then please do get in touch. We hope everyone has a lovely term! Please do let us know if you can help with readers etc!

*Mr Hardwick and Mrs Rutt*