

### Homework

We encourage all children to read for 10 minutes every day at home. We encourage the children to take responsibility for changing their reading book once it has been read. We welcome the positive comments you make in the reading record and appreciate the time you take to listen to your child. It really helps them!

Children will be given spellings, literacy and maths homework on Monday which should be returned by Friday. Please practise spellings daily if possible—little and often is the best way to learn them. Spellings will be tested on Friday morning. Each piece of homework is designed to reinforce work already covered in school and should take approximately 15 minutes to complete. We endeavour to make homework tasks achievable for the class to complete independently so that the children can get used to managing their own time. However if children struggle with a task, we are always here to help them, and can always find time to help them complete a task if they get stuck.

### Expectations in Year 4

Children throughout the school are encouraged at all times to be polite, diligent and hard working. We want the children to do the best they can and feel a sense of pride and achievement in everything they do. We welcome mistakes and encourage the children to persevere and be resilient. We encourage independence and organisational skills, alongside teamwork and a respect for all other members of 'Team St Minver'. We remind the children daily of our school motto, 'Be Brave, Be Kind, Belong'.

### Class rewards

House points and stars (worth 10 house points) are given to individuals as reward for excellent behaviour, attitudes and work.

We hope you will find this information useful. If you have any further questions or queries do not hesitate to ask. You can contact Mr Gill or Mrs Hewitt using the email address: **homelearning@stminver.org**

We look forward to a happy and enjoyable term in Year 4!

Thank you again for all your support.

With very best wishes,

Mr Gill and Mrs Hewitt



## Year 4 Class Booklet—Spring Term 1

Teachers:  
Mr Gill and Mrs Hewitt

Teaching Assistant:  
Mrs Broad



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to what promises to be another exciting half term in year 4. This half term we will be starting our new topic: **Invaders and Settlers**. In fact, Mr Bones (our friendly classroom skeleton) is already dressed as an Anglo-Saxon warrior, ready for invasion! Lots of the work we are planning in different subject areas will be linked to this topic and we are sure that the children will enjoy the activities we have planned.

We were so impressed by the children last term. In a world which continues to be full of uncertainty, the children have shown amazing resilience and ability to work hard, making real progress with their learning. We cannot thank you enough for the amazing support you give to the children and the school.

The information below gives an outline of some of the exciting learning we have planned for this half term.

### English

This half term the children will continue to develop their skills as creative writers and also become more confident in using increasingly complex sentence structures. To start the term, we will be looking at instruction writing. This unit will involve evaluating instructions, looking at the structure of instructions and writing our own instructions. Next we will be looking at writing brilliant setting descriptions. We will be looking at creative devices we can use to make our setting descriptions exciting to read and also help the reader create a vivid mental picture of the settings we are describing. As the term progresses, our writing will be increasingly linked to our topic on invaders and settlers. Our final unit of the term is a poetry unit in which we will be using devices such as personification to describe the natural world around us and the environment faced by early settlers in Britain. Throughout this half term the children will work to become increasingly confident with their use of fronted adverbial sentence starts and this sentence structure will be re-visited in our writing throughout the half term.

On a weekly basis we will also be covering the following:-

- \* Whole class reading
- \* Individual reading either independently or to an adult.
- \* Handwriting practice
- \* SPaG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) lessons.
- \* Weekly spellings are sent home to reinforce what is being taught in school.

### Maths

The main focus of this half term is multiplication and division. The initial focus will be on mastering written methods for multiplication and division. As the children become more confident with these written methods, they will learn to apply these methods to solve increasingly complex one and two step problems. To finish the half term, we look at how area can be measured and will carry out lots of practical work linked to this topic.

Topics include:

- ◆ Further consolidation of times table facts.
- ◆ Written method for multiplication and division.
- ◆ Problem solving and reasoning linked to multiplication and division
- ◆ Measuring area

### Computing

This half term our computing work will be linked to our science topic and our work in literacy. We will be looking at how sound can be recorded and how we can edit the sounds we record. Later in the unit we will use our skills to record and edit an audio version of some of our creative writing, so that it can be shared with children in other classes. Alongside this, we will also continue to build our knowledge of how to stay safe online.

### Science

This term we will be completing a unit of work on 'Sound'. We will be looking at how sounds are made and linking this to vibration. We will begin to understand that sound travels as waves and how the volume and pitch of a sound can be changed. To test this we will be looking at different musical instruments and even building our own basic instruments! Throughout the term, we will focus on scientific investigations and working practically in our lessons. There will be a focus on making predictions, testing them and drawing conclusions from fair testing.

### RE

In R.E. this half term we will be studying the Hindu faith. We will look at how Hindus show their faith at home and within their communities in Britain. We will study Hindu festivals and how these are observed. Throughout the topic the children will be given opportunities to make connections, ask questions and suggest answers in discussion about what we have learnt.

### Topic

Our topic for this term is "Invaders and Settlers". In **History** we will be studying the Anglo-Saxons. We will find out about why the Anglo-Saxons came to Britain, where they settled and what their lives were like. We will be looking at a range of Anglo-Saxon artefacts to help us find out about the past. To complement our history work, in **Geography** we will be looking at what a settlement is, why people settle in a particular area, different types of settlements and how settlements are linked. We will look at maps to help us link all this back to our local area. We will also be designing our own settlements!

### Music

This half term we will be listening to and appraising pieces of classical music. We will focus on Vivaldi's Four seasons and compare this to other pieces by different composers. We will also start our unit of drumming where we will work towards creating a whole class musical composition to perform.

### Art

Our focus this half term will be on collage. We will look at the work of the artist Kurt Schwitters and use this as inspiration to create our own pieces using collage created using magazines. Later in the half term we will use the collage skills we have developed to create final pieces linked to our topic on invaders and settlers. We will be creating mixed media seascapes showing Anglo-Saxon boats crossing the sea.

### French

Our weekly French lessons will continue this half term. The focus will be on vocabulary around different colours and we will learn to describe things using their colour. We will also learn how to introduce our family members.

### PSHE (Personal Social and Health Education)

This term we will be following the Jigsaw framework unit: **Dreams and Goals**. Each week the children take part in a range of games, and activities designed to get the children to think about and reflect on a subject. These include: Knowing the things I'm good at; knowing what "hopeful" and "disappointed" mean; knowing the importance of setting goals; perseverance; knowing how to encourage other people.

### PE

This term the children will have PE on a Monday afternoon with Mr Gill and Friday afternoon with Mrs Hewitt. This half term our focus will be on invasion games. Although we will look at a range of games to build our individual and tactical skills, our main focus will be on Football and Touch Rugby. The children will build their individual skills of passing, receiving and learn to apply these skills tactically in small game situations. Please note that the children should come to school dressed in their PE kits on these days. As the children will be in their PE kit all day please make sure they are dressed appropriately for the weather. Your child may wear plain dark leggings or jogging bottoms on these days.