



Hawks' Class Newsletter Spring Term 2017

<p>English</p> 	<p>Our Literacy work this term will be centred around our topic work on the Saxons and Vikings and our Science work on Forces. We will be writing adventure stories full of atmosphere and tension as well as biographies, non-chronological reports and recounts; we will also be taking part in drama activities based around the tale of Beowulf. Throughout the term we will be ensuring all our work is presented to the highest standard, ensuring that our handwriting is joined and that our spelling is accurate, using a dictionary to check all words we are unsure of. We will be working towards mastering all the punctuation skills and sentence structures we have learnt so we can confidently and consistently demonstrate our writing ability within all our everyday writing.</p>
<p>Maths</p> 	<p>This term we will be working towards mastering the mathematical skills we were introduced to in the Autumn Term. As in previous terms during and after each maths session the children's understanding will be assessed in order to ensure that they are appropriately challenged or supported in their learning. We will be investigating ratio and algebra and focusing on mastering our understanding of decimals, fractions and percentages. We will be challenging ourselves to solve complex problems applying our knowledge and reasoning skills.</p>
<p>Science</p> 	<p>This term we will be focusing on forces. We will be experimenting with magnets, finding out about the different poles and their relationship to each other. We will then learn about gravity and research Sir Isaac Newton, producing a biography on his life and achievements. We will be carrying out experiments to explore drag forces including air resistance, water resistance and friction. During the term we hope to visit Houghton Mill to investigate the everyday use and effectiveness of gears, levers and pulleys. Throughout all lessons we will be working hard to develop our ability to think scientifically and develop our investigatory skills.</p>
<p>Geography and History</p> 	<p>Our topic this term is 'Smashing Saxons and Vicious Vikings?' We will investigate the true legacy of their invasion and settlement on our language and nation. In particular we will question whether the Vikings deserve their violent and bloodthirsty reputation. As Geographers, we will find out where they came from, discover why they came and investigate the origins of place names to plot their settlements. We will study the chronology of the Anglo- Saxon/Viking periods, focusing on key figures such as Alfred the Great. Through investigating the discovery of the Sutton Hoo burial, we will sharpen our historical skills by becoming archaeologists and learning from the artefacts discovered. Towards the end of term we will visit the reconstructed settlement of West Stowe to discover what life was like for ordinary people during this period.</p>
<p>Religious Education</p> 	<p>This term, to link with our History topic, we will be investigating the impact of the spread of Christianity during the Saxon and Viking periods. We will learn about Saxon and Viking religious customs and beliefs and will focus on attitudes towards the ultimate questions of life within all religions.</p>

<p>Art & Design Technology</p> 	<p>During the first half term our Art work will be based on the Sutton Hoo treasures and the designs of the Saxon and Viking periods. Inspired by these we will be creating detailed embroideries and prints. During the second half term we will be finding out about Saxon and Viking food. We will find out how food was preserved during this period of time and will learn how we need to safely store food now. We will be attempting to recreate and adapt some traditional recipes to share during our open afternoon.</p>
<p>Music</p> 	<p>This term we will be focusing on rap music. Based around the Will Smith 'Prince of Bel Air' track we will be developing our musical vocabulary, ability to read music and performance skills. We will then attempt to create a soundtrack for our class film.</p>
<p>PSHE</p> 	<p>During the first half term our focus unit will be on healthy living, this will include a visit from the Kick Ash group who will talk to the children about the importance of having a smoke-free lifestyle and dealing with peer pressure. Later in the term we will also be working on a Financial Capability Unit which explores the world of money, budgeting and work.</p>
<p>Physical Education</p> 	<p>This term during our outside PE sessions we will be focusing on our Hockey skills. We will be developing our ball skills and tactics, building up to small team games. During our inside PE sessions we will be working on our gymnastics skills, creating more complex routines and movements. We will also continue to take part in and help to lead our whole school sport's afternoons.</p>
<p>Computing</p> 	<p>This term as part of our 'digital literacy' unit we will be starting work on this year's entry into the Cambridgeshire Young Person's Film Festival. We will be learning about different filming techniques and will aim to create a short film together. In addition we will be looking at how ICT can be used to present and record our learning across the curriculum. We will also continue to keep ourselves safe online by focusing on the use of social media and awareness of the overuse/ reliance of online and computer games and activities.</p>
<p>MFL</p> 	<p>This term we will continue to recap the language we have learnt so far and will then focus on learning vocabulary and taking part in conversations relating to food and clothing. We will also be learning about German Culture, in particular popular entertainment, taking part in a German Puppet workshop.</p>
<p>Other Information</p> <p>and Finally..</p>	<p>We continue to be committed to helping your child develop a lifelong love of reading. Please continue to encourage your child to read regularly at home and to discuss their reading with you, especially any vocabulary they are unfamiliar with. It is also great for children to share the books they have enjoyed with the class and at our KS assemblies, so please bring your favourite books in so we can encourage others to read them.</p> <p>If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me. <i>Mrs Frances Smith</i></p>