



Was the Roman invasion positive or negative for Britons?

Curriculum in Detail

Year 4 Spring Term

Dear Parents/Carers,

Here is a detailed overview of this term's exciting learning journey based on our new topic, the Romans.

Maths

This term places a strong focus on times table facts, in preparation for the statutory Multiplication Tables Check in June. We will begin by exploring and consolidating all times table facts up to 12×12 , ensuring speed and automaticity through regular recall and practice. Following this, we will move on to using written calculation methods to multiply and divide 2- and 3-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers.

Later on in the term, we will revisit fractions before moving on to learning all about decimals after half term. Using manipulatives such as place value charts and number lines, the children will learn to recognise, read and represent tenths and hundredths.

Science

In this term's science unit *Sound*, the children will learn how vibrations cause sounds and how sounds travel, as well as how sounds can change pitch and loudness. The children will learn about how sounds are made, carrying out demonstrations of vibrations, and completing a sound survey of the school. Working in a hands-on way, they will explore pitch and investigate how sounds change over distance and through different materials. Finally, the children will have the opportunity to demonstrate their learning from the whole unit by designing and creating their own musical instrument that will play high, low, loud and quiet sounds.

After half term, we will move on to our next unit, *Electricity*.

English

We will begin the term by studying the story of Romulus and Remus, a legend that tells of the founding of Rome by twin brothers. The children will then use their knowledge and understanding of the text to write a character description of Romulus, create a short play-script, and write a continuation of the story with Romulus as King.

Later on in the term, equipped with their newfound knowledge of the Roman invasion of Britain, the children will write a newspaper article all about the invasion, before taking on the role of a Celt at the time of the invasion in a diary entry.

Next term, the children will read and explore the story, *Escape from Pompeii*, by Christina Balit. They will begin by writing a descriptive recount of the eruption of Vesuvius in 79AD before moving on to writing poems about volcanoes.

To finish the term, the children will create a double-page spread all about the Romans, showcasing everything they have learnt.

R.E

This term's first R.E unit is *Gospel: What kind of world did Jesus want?* The unit is based on the Christian concept of Gospel, meaning 'Good News'. The children will have the opportunity to explore the four books in the New Testament of the Bible that make up the Gospel stories: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Through their recounts of the life of Jesus, the stories he told and the example he set to his followers, they will understand how, for Christians, the Gospels share the Good News that Jesus brought to Earth.

After half term, we will be exploring our next unit, *Salvation: Why do Christians call the day Jesus died 'Good Friday'?*

Spanish

This term focusses on using the phrases 'Me gusta/n' (I like) and 'No me gusta/n' (I don't like) with the names of animals in Spanish. This is a great opportunity for the children to revisit masculine/feminine and singular/plural rules for nouns in Spanish.

After half term, the children will learn all about Easter celebrations in Spain.

Music

Year 4 are extremely lucky to be receiving ukulele whole-class tuition this term from an external tutor who will be coming into school weekly. We have recently purchased 15 brand-new ukuleles for the children to use in their lessons (with the money we kindly received from the Dalton Trust). I cannot wait to start learning along with the children!

Art and D.T

Our art lessons will focus on Roman mosaics. Initially, the children will look at examples of Roman mosaics and read and learn about who had these and what they indicated about the owner's place in society. They will then design a Roman-style mosaic and use printing techniques practised throughout the term to create their final piece.

Our D.T lessons will link with our science topic of *Sound*, where the children will have the opportunity to design and create their own musical instrument.

History and Geography

This term's topic will give the children an overview of the impact of the Roman empire on Britain, including its lasting legacy. The children will consider how different historical sources help us to know about Roman Britain and will research what it might have been like to live in Britain during the period of Roman occupation.

P.E

P.E will be taught this term on Mondays (P.E unit TBC) by our external P.E coach, Coach Tom, and on Tuesdays (Gymnastics) by myself.

Computing

In Computing, the children will be using the Scratch online programming tool to program their own stories, games and animations.

Home Learning

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| Reading | Daily for at least 15 minutes. Please continue to sign your child's Reading Record to show they have read. |
| Spellings | Encourage your child to practise these by writing them out daily using the homework sheet provided. Tests will take place on a Monday. |
| Times Tables | Just like last term, children will be tested on their times tables every Monday and Friday. It is really important that the children practise their times tables frequently to prepare themselves for the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) in June. Practise online at: https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/477/Multiplication-Tables-Check |
| SPaG | I will be continuing to set a weekly SPaG worksheet. Worksheets will be available via the ClassDojo portfolio. They will be set on a Friday and due the following Friday. Children who fail to complete their homework by the deadline will complete it in their own time. |
| Maths | I will also continue to set a Maths worksheet to consolidate the week's learning. This will also be set on a Friday and due the following Friday. Children who fail to complete their homework by the deadline will complete it in their own time. |

What an exciting term we are going to have!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on aphillips@stmcep.school.

Best wishes,

Miss Phillips