



INVADERS

How did the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings change life for the Britons?

Year 3, Spring Term 2021

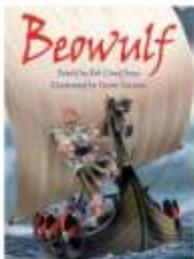
Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back!

I'm sure you are all as excited as I am to be returning to school after what seems like an eternity of home learning. I cannot wait to see you all and kickstart the term with our exciting new topic, *Invaders*. Through this primarily history-based topic, we will delve into the raids and invasions by Vikings in Anglo-Saxon Britain, learning who the Vikings were, and why they wanted to settle in Britain.

English

In English, we will be exploring some wonderful stories related to our new topic:



Beowulf, retold by Rob Lloyd Jones

How to Train Your Dragon, Cressida Cowell

Arthur and the Golden Rope, Joe Todd Stanton

The children will engage imaginatively with each text through drama, discussion, and a series of creative activities. We will begin with the Anglo-Saxon legend, *Beowulf*, where the children will have the opportunity to write their own hero myth based on the text.

Maths

Before we look at what would normally be this term's focus, *Measurement and Fractions*, we will first determine any gaps in the children's learning and consolidate their understanding of the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division). Then, we will move on to

Measurement (specifically measuring lengths, comparing lengths, and calculating perimeter), before finishing the term by revisiting the fractions content from Year 2, ready for beginning the Year 3 fractions content next term.

Science

In Science this term, the children will take on the role of botanists and learn everything there is to know about plants! They will learn the names of the different parts of plants, and the jobs they do. Through scientific and collaborative investigations, they will discover what plants need to grow well and present their findings to their peers. Furthermore, they will have chance to predict what will happen in an exciting investigation into the transportation of water within plants. They will work in a hands-on way to identify the parts of a flower and will explore the different stages of the life cycle of a flowering plant.

R.E

This term, we will be learning about the Christian faith through the Christian concept of *salvation*. Through our learning, we will explore the story of Easter and what it means to Christians today.

Spanish

This term in Spanish, the children will start to look more closely at the language structure, using indefinite articles with nouns (the names of animals) and adjectives (the colours) to form basic descriptive phrases. They will also have the opportunity to read and listen to a series of short stories.

Music

This term in Music, I am very excited to be teaching the children to play the descant recorder. From the very beginning, they will learn how to read music and play simple pieces involving just a few notes. Our initial focus will be on the notes B, A and G.

Art

With a focus on improving their drawing and shading techniques, the children will become even more immersed in their Viking topic through drawing Viking knots, sketching fierce warriors and creating their own Viking jewellery, all the while improving their art knowledge, understanding and skills.

Geography

For our Geography work, we will be using atlases to locate the origins and trace the journeys of our invaders. Looking more closely at the topography of Britain, we will also consider why England was ripe for invasion.

P.E

P.E will continue to be taught this term by our external P.E coach, Tom (on a Monday). Please ensure children come to school wearing appropriate kit for the weather. The children will be learning all about attacking and defending through invasion games.

Home Learning

- **Daily reading:** Where possible, this should be for 15 minutes or more. To encourage regular reading practice, there is a reading ladder in class consisting of ten steps. Every time your child achieves more than 60% on a book quiz, they can move up a step on the ladder. Once they reach the top, they receive a bookmark which is then punched. Once their bookmark is punched ten times, they can sit next to a partner of their choice for a whole day. Don't forget, comics, magazines, newspapers, and reference books all support the reading journey!
- **Regular times tables practice:** Due to being away from school for such a long period of time, the children will be retested on their times tables at the beginning of term in order to determine which times table they are on. Following this, they will be tested every Monday and Friday. Regular practice is essential. Use TT Rockstars online; download the app; or simply practise, practise, practise by reciting, singing, or writing out the times tables! Next year, the children will be required to sit a statutory Multiplication Tables Check, in which they will be tested on all of their times tables. As an incentive, there is a class times table challenge. Who will be the first to reach the top?
- **Regular spelling practice:** The children will continue to receive a list of spellings to practise each week, followed by a weekly test on Fridays.

That's all for now! I hope you are excited about the fun learning opportunities that await you this term.

If you have any questions or just want to come and say hello, please make an appointment via Mrs Hollis in the office. Alternatively, you can drop me an email at: aphillips@stmcep.school

Miss Phillips