

# Year 5's Newsletter

Teacher: Mr Blackwell; Teaching Assistant: Mrs French



Welcome back to school! We hope that you had a great holiday and are feeling refreshed and ready for the challenges and exciting opportunities which await you this year.

This half term we will be learning about life during the Viking times. We will be investigating what it was like to live during the Viking period and looking at differences between then and today. Opportunities for children to follow their own lines of enquiry will form a vital part of this topic and we have already started to find out about what the Vikings ate, how they wrote and how they used art to decorate their weapons! We started the half-term with a Viking meal. The children weren't too keen on the bland food the Vikings would have eaten and have started to find out why they didn't have the variety of foods, herbs and spices we do today!



## English

Linking to our Tudor topic, our literacy focus this half term is based around a book called 'The Rabbits' by Shaun Tan. This book will link well with our Viking topic and the theme of invaders. The children have already started to investigate the first couple of pages of the book and have made predictions about what they think is going to happen in the story. Throughout the course of this year, we will be having regular guided reading lessons and dedicated

spelling, punctuation and grammar sessions in order to improve writing skills.

This term we will also be looking at literature by the author Tony Bradman. As part of this, we will be reading his book 'Viking Boy' as our class novel and some of his other works will be available in the reading area.



## Maths

In maths, we will be looking at a variety of topics this half term. Forthcoming topics in this subject include: Number and Place Value, Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division and Fractions. We will be exposing children to a wide range of reasoning and problem solving activities and hope to see their resilience in tackling such problems continue to grow. Children will have received their 'Mathletics' log-ins and are expected to be using this resource regularly to support learning in class. All of the maths units we will cover this year can be found and a wide variety of problems, questions and even tutorials are available. Further study at home using this resource will have a profound impact on the progress the children make in maths this year so please encourage them to spend time on it every week.

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## Sporting Activities



This year the children will be continuing to receive high quality specialist sports coaching. Year 5 will have tennis, gymnastics, dance, yoga, swimming, cricket, athletics and fitness sessions. Please ensure children have appropriate PE kits (red t-shirts, black shorts/tracksuit bottoms), including footwear, so that they can participate in these activities.

**PE: Friday**

**Yoga: Thursday**

**Fitness: Monday & Thursday**

## Viking Topic



As you are already aware, this half-term our topic is the Vikings. As part of this we will be visiting York on 10<sup>th</sup> September to access activities at the DIG and Jorvik Viking Centre. The children will be able to take a tour around a Viking settlement, find out more about the Vikings and where they came from, handle artefacts and enjoy a workshop on Viking battle tactics. This visit will bring the topic to life and I hope that the children will spend time at home researching and finding out more about the Vikings to supplement their learning in class!

## Nottingham

### Contemporary Project



As part of their forthcoming exhibition: 'Still Undead: Popular Culture in Britain Beyond the Bauhaus', Year 5 will be participating in a series of workshops with an artist from Nottingham Contemporary linked to this exhibition. They will be able to explore the works of art which will be on show in the gallery and use their creativity to explore this movement. Excitingly, the children will also have the opportunity to visit the exhibition before it is open to the public as part of a preview event. I will send out more information about this nearer the time.

I would like to take this opportunity to express how much I am looking forward to teaching your children this year and look forward to working in partnership with you. I would like to thank you in advance for your continued support with your child's learning at home. It has a highly positive impact on their performance in the classroom during such an important year.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact myself (Mr Blackwell) or Mrs French.