



Danbury Park Community Primary School

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Dear Parents,

Learning in Class Dove Autumn 2021

The Anglo-Saxons - Friend or Foe?

It is lovely to be back in school and be able to work with the children in our normal setting. From talking to the children, they too seem to be pleased to be back in the classroom. Let us hope this continues.

Between now and Christmas, the children will experience all areas of the curriculum linked, wherever possible, to our topic about the Anglo- Saxons.

Class Routines

Reading Challenge

During the term the children will be working on their own reading programme with the intention of completing a reading award. They will be encouraged to read a variety of genres and select different authors, recording in a selection of ways their responses to the books. If possible, I would also encourage them to read aloud to an adult, enabling fluency and expression to be developed and practiced and to give them an opportunity to discuss the books read. Please record these sessions in their journal.

Let's Present

Each Wednesday three children will have the opportunity to talk to their class about a chosen subject. The subject this term is 'Our Talents'. The children at Danbury Park have many talents and this will be their opportunity to share their skills with each other. Their talk should last approximately 5 minutes with a question and answer session to follow. Should the children wish to use a PowerPoint to complement their work, please email this using the class email address. These should be sent to me by the Monday of the week they are due to present their work.



Spelling and Homework

Each Monday the children will be given a set of spellings to study. These spellings should show the learning objective and should have been marked by an adult. These will be found in their spelling diary. The diary should be brought to school each day to enable class work to be achieved. They will be tested on these words on the following Monday. May I ask that the books are covered in wrapping paper. Once this has been done, I will put a name label on the book.

They will have a set of termly words which they need to learn in preparation for the end of term test. These can be found in their spelling diary.

To aid their multiplication knowledge the children will be asked to study a given multiplication table. This will also be tested on a Monday. The table being studied will be recorded in their spelling diary. During the first half of the term, the children will revisit the multiplication tables known. New ones will be taught and practiced after the October break.

I would also like to encourage the children to consolidate their maths learning by spending time on Mathletics and Times Table Rockstars. Each child has their own log-in details.

Class Work

Wherever possible this will be based around the title, 'The Anglo Saxons - Friend or Foe?' When learning, the children will experience different aspects about life during the period of these invaders to Britain. The areas to be studied are:

English

The children will begin the term by researching life during the times of the Anglo-Saxons. This research will then be used to produce a non-chronological report. The children may be asked to do some research at home to aid their writing in class.

We will also be reading Beowulf by Michael Morpurgo, as part of our Myths and Legends study. The children will then write their own chapter to the story.

The knowledge gained from reading the book will help the children with the poetry unit based around Kennings.

Finally, the children will produce a play script linked to the study of the Anglo-Saxons. During their writing, the children will study the use of determiners, conjunctions, noun phrases and adverbial phrases. These will be used to enrich their writing.

Maths

Each day there will be a maths lesson. The term will begin with place value, looking at the value of each digit within a three-digit number (Year 3) and a four-digit number (Year 4). This then moves to addition and subtraction, where the children will look at methods of calculating, both mentally and recording using the column method. The final unit of work will be multiplication and division.



In addition to the daily maths lesson, the children will have two sessions a week called Four Calculations where they will solve addition, subtraction, multiplication and division calculations. They will also have opportunities to reinforce their knowledge of their multiplication tables.

Science

This term we have two areas of study, States of Matter and Electricity. We will begin with States of Matter looking at solids, liquids and gases. They will compare and group materials together, according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases, observe that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled, and measure or research the temperature at which this happens in degrees Celsius ($^{\circ}\text{C}$). The children will identify the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle and associate the rate of evaporation with temperature.

During the Electricity study, they will construct a simple series electrical circuit, identifying and naming its basic parts, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers. They will identify whether or not a lamp will light in a simple series circuit, based on whether or not the lamp is part of a complete loop with a battery and recognise that a switch opens and closes a circuit and associate this with whether or not a lamp lights. Common conductors and insulators will be identified.

History

The children will study the period known as the Anglo-Saxons. They will discover why they came and where they came from. Comparisons will be made with their life then and our life now. They will study the changes that occurred in England after the arrival of the Anglo-Saxons, noting those that are still used today. They will study the arrival of Christianity and the impact this had on the people. The unit will end with the arrival of the Normans in 1066.

Art

In art the children will experiment with ways in which surface detail can be added to drawings. They will use sketchbooks to collect and record visual information from different sources and draw for a sustained period of time at an appropriate level. The children will work using clay to create 3D items related to the Anglo-Saxons.

Design Technology

The children will learn the art of weaving and sewing creating a purse similar to those used during the Anglo-Saxon times.



Music

In music the children will be learning about how to notate music in different ways, starting with musical cells, using Anglo Saxon runes to represent different musical ideas. They will be using their notated music to see how they can play the cells in a different order to make it new. They will also be learning about and listening to music by the first two Composers of the Month, Firsova and Ginastera. As the term continues, the children will add pitch to their notation skills and begin to write melodies. Finally, they will concentrate on learning traditional and new songs for Christmas. They will also be learning about and listening to music by the next Composers of the Month, Desplat and Anderson.

Computing

The term will begin by looking at how to stay safe online, recognising and understanding the dangers and where to find help should it be needed. The children will create a teaching resource for other children, explaining these dangers and ways in which they can stay safe. The internet will be used for research about the Anglo-Saxons and the computers used to create an information document to display their knowledge. The children will be introduced to Decomposition (how to solve problems) and Algorithms.

Religious Education

There are two units of study this term, Hinduism and Christianity. In both units the children will look at the buildings used for worship and the importance of these buildings to the followers of each religion. They will also look at how Hindus and Christians worship. They will also share the Christmas story.

PSHE

This term the unit of study is concerned with relationships. The children will discuss the relationships they have within the family, their school and the wider community. They will discuss ways that enable these relationships to remain positive and what they should do should problems occur.

Class Assembly

We hope to be able to share our learning with you at a Class Assembly this term. More details regarding this will follow soon.



Swimming

This term the Year 4 children will have the opportunity to attend five lessons at Blackwater Leisure Centre. These will be on a Tuesday afternoon from 12:45 until 3:00pm. The Year 3 children will have the same opportunity in the summer term.

classd@danburypark.essex.sch.uk

Finally, should you have any concerns about your child's learning please feel free to contact me using the class email address. These emails will be checked at the end of each teaching day. Thank you once again for your continued support.

Mrs Ireland

Mrs Barker

