

Opal Class Spring Term Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year wishes to you all. Welcome back for another exciting and productive term in Opal Class. I am looking forward to building on the progress the children have already made during the Autumn Term.

Topics

Our topic for the first half of this term is '**Traders and Raiders**'. We will write reports as an onlooker who witnessed the Saxon landing and find out about key dates. Using online maps we will plot the location of Roman shore forts. We will make models of Saxon homes and carve runes. We will write character portraits about Alfred the Great and learn about the everyday lives of the Saxons and Vikings. Using maps, we will identify the places where the invaders came from and locate settlements.

For the second half of the Spring Term our topic will be '**Tremors**'. We will begin to describe and understand key aspects of the physical geography of mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes. We will learn the names and the locations of well-known mountains and volcanoes and develop our fieldwork skills by using four and six figure grid references. In Art we will study the work of Andy Warhol and create our own version of his painting Vesuvius. In DT the children will be making models to help support their understanding of geography of the earth.

Science

First we will complete **Habitats** followed by **Sound**. In both areas of science the children will be encouraged to work scientifically and 'think like a scientist', as well as learning subject matter.

Homework

Homework will continue to be given out on Wednesday and returned the following

Monday. The children should be working on Year 4 Spring 1 spellings or their own words as provided. Maths work is accessed via the MyMaths website and tables can be practised using the Times Table Rock Stars website. A grammar activity linked to current class work will also be included where appropriate.

Computers are available during lunch break on Tuesdays for the homework to be completed if necessary.

P.E.

For the first half of the term, we are fortunate to have a squash coach for one of our PE lessons. This will take place on a Friday. Our other day for PE is Tuesday. After half term, the children will have football lessons on Thursdays. Please ensure that your child has their P.E. kit in school everyday. *Just a polite reminder - earrings to be removed and long hair should be tied back. Thank you.*

Other

Open Class day is Friday. However, if you would like to drop in on another day please arrange this at the office. If you have any queries and/or concerns please let me know.

Holiday Projects

Thank you for taking the time and effort to help the children with their projects. They are amazing.

Regards Mrs A. Read Class Teacher,