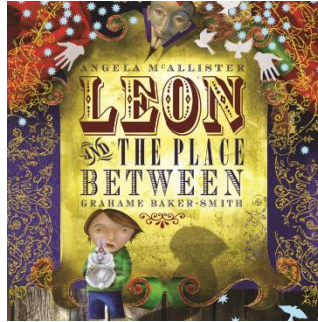


Year 4 Autumn Term Newsletter



Introduction

Welcome to the Autumn Term edition of the Year 4 newsletter! We hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable summer, and we look forward to working with you and your children over the coming year. The children have already settled brilliantly into their new classes, and we are enjoying working with them. We have been so impressed by their understanding and demonstration of our school values of Love, Courage and Curiosity and there is definitely a One Family atmosphere in Year 4.

This newsletter is aimed to inform you about year 4. Please also see the main school newsletter as well for important dates and information.

Year 4 Curriculum

Alongside this newsletter, there is a curriculum overview for the Autumn term on our website. There are also the notes from the Briefing Meeting given at the beginning the term that were emailed to you. It was lovely to see so many of you there and these notes can help for those of you not able to join us. As with anything, we are always happy to hear from you, so if there are any questions or concerns, please do get in touch. To find our curriculum overview, please go to our website and click on the curriculum tab and find Year 4.

This term's topics - 'Anglo-Saxons – savage or not?' and 'Vikings – raiders or invaders?'

This half term, we will be studying the Anglo-Saxons; most of the learning will be linked to this history topic. Our island has, for many years, had people travelling in boats wanting to come and live here. During the first half-term, we will continue through British history building on the work on Romans in Year 3, discover the Saxons (how savage were they?) and then consider whether the Vikings were raiders or traders. To help us with our learning we are very excited to welcome the Oxenwood team to take us back in time for a full day of hands on history learning in our school grounds. We are also looking forward to making our own clay Anglo-Saxon masks looking at different current artists and the amazing designs from this time in history. During this term, we will also be looking, in science, at food chains and our own pond in the first half term and then the digestive system and teeth before Christmas including a visit from a real dentist to explain why teeth are so important and interesting! We will also be welcoming other visitors to help with our learning, including people of different faiths to help with our RE understanding and even a magician to help with English!



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Life in all its fullness – achieving more together.

Love Courage Creativity

Reading

In Year 4, reading continues to be a main priority for our children's learning. We would like to ask you to keep up the great reading at home. Listening to, reading with and reading to your child all helps in developing comprehension skills and, above all, an enthusiasm for reading itself. The expectation is for your child to read at home at least five times a week (for 10-15 minutes or more at a time) and to record it in their reading record. Please ensure that your child brings in their record into school each day. Our behaviour reward system is also placed in the back of the reading record: another great reason for children to bring this into school every day! If you aren't sure what to ask your child while reading – please see inside the Reading Record for ideas.

Homework

We will be giving Year 4 their homework on Fridays, and this will need to be submitted on Google Classroom by the following Thursday. A reminder of how to use the system will be given in the Parents' Briefing meeting and we will share notes online. If you have any issues, please do let us know. As a school, our commitment to reduce paper waste means we are keen to encourage all children to complete homework online. In Year 4 homework focuses on revision and core skills: Spelling, Times Tables and Reading – all of which are vital for children's success. Please support your child as every bit of home practice will make a huge difference to their confidence and their success throughout primary school.

Your child may also, occasionally, come home with a skills card, identifying specific areas in learning which they found challenging in class that day or that we would like to further progress their skills in. On such occasions, the teacher will give an example of the learning point and set a few tasks to work on that evening, to be returned as soon as possible.

At some points through the year, we will also set longer research-based homework activities, often as part of a piece of work for our whole school community. If you do find homework is difficult at home due to other commitments, please do consider using the Homework Club after school where teachers help pupils.

Reminders – PE and the outdoors

Our PE days are on a Monday (outdoors) and Friday (indoors). Please make sure that your child has the appropriate PE kit for each day. On indoor PE days, the children can wear their shorts underneath their tracksuit bottoms or have them ready in their bag to change into if needed. Please make sure all of your child's belongings are named and encourage them to take responsibility for their own belongings. Also, during P.E, if your child is wearing earrings, Hampshire guidance is for them to learn how to remove them. If they are in the early stages of piercing, then earring tape needs to be provided from home.

Please can you also make sure your child has a coat in school – we will take them out for all sorts of learning experiences even if slightly cold and wet!

We are really looking forward to all that this year brings. Should you have any questions or concerns over the coming term, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or another member of the Year 4 team.

Mrs Stephens

Mr Whincup

Miss Cras



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IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

9th Sept	Magician visit as part of English writing
15th Sept	Pond dipping morning in school
21st Sept	Wellington Class Oxenwood experience in school
22nd Sept	Paulet Class Oxenwood experience in school
23rd Sept	Nelson Class Oxenwood experience in school
24th Sept	RE visitor in school
13th and 14th Oct	Parents' Evenings
22nd Oct	Wellington Sharing Assembly 245pm
26th– 30th Oct	Half term
2nd Nov	INSET
3rd Nov	Back to school
16th – 20th Nov	Friendship Week
20th Nov	Dentist visitor to talk about teeth
17th Nov	Year 4 Church Visit – 130pm leaving school to walk to the church – all welcome
15th Dec	6pm Carol Concert at St. Mary's Church – all welcome
17th Dec	End of term church visits Last day of term
18th Dec	INSET day