



Larch Class Newsletter Autumn 2024

I hope that everyone has had a lovely summer and is feeling well rested and excited for the year ahead!

Maths

We will start this half term by focusing on place value up on numbers up to 10,000. We will then be moving on to addition and subtraction of 4-digit numbers.

In Year 4, the children will be required to perform a times tables assessment at the end of the year. They will be tested on a set of random calculations from the 1-12 x tables. Any extra practice at home would be greatly appreciated. Times Tables Rockstars is a fantastic app to use and passwords will be sent home with the children.

English

This half term, we will be starting with a book called 'The King who banned the dark'. This will be used as inspiration for children to plan, draft and write their own narrative. Pupils will also be writing setting descriptions, diary entries as well as participating in role plays and developing their reading skills such as predicting and inferring information. We will then be focusing on 'The miraculous journey of Edward Tulane'.

Spellings

As last year, there will be a focus on teaching and learning the words on the weekly spelling list in class, rather than sending lists of spellings home. A new list will be given to the children each Monday and they will be tested every Friday. Please look on the class page for each week's spelling rule and list.

Reading

It is essential that children in Year 4 continue to practise their reading skills every day.

Children take part in guided reading sessions twice a week with a member of staff. The children also have time to read independently for pleasure after dinner every day. In addition, children are able to choose a book from the class book corner, which is to stay in school and from the school library, which they are free to take home and return once finished.



Home reading books will be sent out on **Tuesdays** and must be returned with a signed reading record every week.

Topic

Our topic this term is the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings. Throughout this unit of work, the children will be developing both their geographical and historical knowledge. Throughout the first half term, we will be looking at the invasions of the Anglo-Saxons, their settlements and impact on life today. We will also be looking at the life of an Anglo-Saxon and their religious beliefs and conversion to Christianity.

Science

This half term our Science topic is 'Grouping living things and their habitats'. Children will be able to group a range of animals based on their characteristics, create their own classification keys and explore ways in which we could improve our local environment. Children will also understand the terms producers and consumers and be able to create their own food chain. Pupils will also be looking at positive and negative influences on the environment and animals' habitats and animals that are endangered or becoming extinct.

P.E.

The pupils will receive two PE sessions a week. These will be on a Monday afternoon with the Larch teaching team and on a Thursday morning with the sports coach.

Please ensure their kit is weather dependent i.e. tracksuit bottoms/jogging bottoms when the weather is colder.

Last Words

I hope you find this information useful but please do not hesitate to speak to myself or anyone from the Larch team should you have any questions.

Kind regards,

Mr Jackson and Mrs Renshaw.