



Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very Happy New Year. As with the previous editions we hope this newsletter helps to keep you informed about what your child is learning and how you can best support them at home. Please familiarise yourself with the aspects of the curriculum we'll be covering this term and use this to help support your child when they're completing homework or choosing books to read. Please do speak to your child's class teacher or myself if you have any questions.

Thank you,  
Ms. L.P. Baldwin  
(Phase Leader Years 5-6)

**Year 5 – Spring 1**

**Creative Curriculum**

Our topic this term is 'The Vikings'. We will be learning about where the Vikings came from and which countries they explored and settled in. We will also be designing a Viking settlement and explaining what buildings were made of and used for. We will be writing about a day in the life of a Viking, describing food, clothing and beliefs. We will be linking this to the reading and writing of myths and legends from Scandinavia.

**English**

In English we will be learning about 'Myths and Legends'. We will be creating our own mythical creatures and writing our own myths.

Your child will continue to have daily RWI split classes and guided reading and spelling sessions.

**Maths**

In maths we will be covering the following topics:

- Interpreting negative numbers in context
- Rounding numbers up to 1,000,000
- Using mental strategies and column method to add and subtract numbers
- Solving multi-step problems involving numbers up to three decimal places.
- Drawing upon known facts to multiply and divide numbers mentally.
- Multiply numbers up to 4-digits by a 1- or 2-digit number.
- Recognise and use square and cube numbers.
- Calculate and compare the area of squares and rectangles.
- Convert between mixed numbers and improper fractions.
- Add and subtract fractions with the same denominators and multiples of the same.

- Identify, describe and represent the position of a shape following a reflection or translation.
- Convert between different units of measure e.g. km to m, l to ml.
- Understand and use basic equivalences between metric units and common imperial units such as inches, pounds and pints.

**Science**

Our topic this term is Forces. In this unit we will be learning about gravity, how forces are balanced and unbalanced. We will also be learning about air resistance and water resistance where children will be creating what they think are the best shaped boats. They will go on to learn how to recognise some every-day uses of mechanical devices including levers, pulleys and gears.

During this unit children will develop their ability to explore, research and investigate and they will practise representing data on a bar graph.

### How you can support your child at home

<p>Why not plan a trip to the British Museum during the weekend or half term holiday? Entrance is free and your child can explore galleries showing exhibits related to their previous topic on The Roman Empire as well as this half term's topic on the Vikings. Ask them to share with you what they've learnt about in history. They could then write a recount of your day out.</p> <p>Encourage your child to borrow books of myths and legends from your local library to help immerse them in this style of writing.</p>	<p>Get your child to learn their spellings by saying the word, then spelling it out-loud, then saying the word again.</p> <p>Help your children learn and/or practise the times tables up to 12 x 12.</p> <p>See <a href="http://mathantics.com/">http://mathantics.com/</a> for alternative explanations of various maths topics. Your child may find these helpful when completing their homework.</p>	<p>If your child has a bike get them to try and find out how it works. They could produce a leaflet explaining this. Encourage them to draw and label diagrams.</p> <p>Work with your child to investigate what objects would be able to parachute using an umbrella. A pritt stick? A teddy bear? A book? They could then write a report of what they found out. Encourage them to use the websites below to support them with this.</p>
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### Other information

#### Homework

Please ensure your child is reading every day, including the books set for them by their teachers on Bug Club. Use the reading journal to help communicate with your child's class teacher about what they are reading. Homework will continue to be sent out on Fridays for the children to return to school the following Thursday.

#### PE

Please ensure your child has their full PE kit (navy blue shorts or jogging bottoms, navy blue jumper, white t-shirt and black plimsolls). PE kits should be brought in on Mondays and taken home to be washed on Fridays.

#### ECAM

Instruments lessons will continue to be every Monday until Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March. Please encourage your child to practise their chosen instrument at home.

#### Trips

We would be grateful if you could please send back reply slips (and monies where relevant) as soon as possible to make administering these easier.

#### Dates for your diary

Wednesday 1st February 2017 - Transition morning at Little Ilford School

Week beginning 30<sup>th</sup> January: Y5 online tests

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February: Last day of Spring 1

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February: Trip to Tate and Lyle for 'Junior Citizens' workshop – letters to follow

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February: First day of Spring 2

Week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> February 2017- 'Bikability' Cycle Training for 24 Y5 children – letters to follow

### Useful websites

Vikings:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/ztyr9j6>

<http://www.britishmuseum.org/>

<http://www.fun-facts.org.uk/vikings/vikings.htm>

<http://www.dkfindout.com/uk/history/vikings/#!>

Forces:

[http://www.physics4kids.com/files/motion\\_force.html](http://www.physics4kids.com/files/motion_force.html)

<https://online.kidsdiscover.com/unit/force-and-motion>

<http://www.ducksters.com/science/physics/force.php>

Maths: <http://mathantics.com/>

