

# Birkwood Primary Year 4 Newsletter

## SPRING TERM

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new term! It has been lovely to see how enthusiastic and hard-working the children in Class 4 have been since their return to school. Below is a summary of the areas we intend to cover this term:

### Topic

Our topic for this term is Invaders and Settlers.

We will be studying the Celts of Ancient Britain and the Romans who settled here. We will explore why the Romans came to Britain and what influences they left behind. This is an enjoyable topic and the children will be given the opportunity to research many areas independently and produce their own projects. We also have the opportunity to work with Malcolm Hanson this term. He is a historian and children's author and together we will be setting up a local Heritage Trail. This will involve 4 days of walking, observing and researching about the history of our area, and will culminate in a "mass walk", where the children will share their learning with you. Get those walking boots ready!

### Mathematics

We will cover a broad range of topics and concepts every term concentrating especially on calculations. We will continue to develop written methods for the 4 main operations of number: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will also be using decimals to work with money and measurements, learning about 3D shapes and accurately reading scales. We will be giving and following directions using the eight points of a compass.

### English

We will be making links between our topic, Invaders and Settlers, as much as possible this term. We will be concentrating on narrative setting, information texts, explanations and poetry. We will continue to focus on sentence construction, using a joined up handwriting style and spelling rules.

### ICT

The children will learn how to use the internet more effectively for research, in addition to all of the major Microsoft Applications to present their work.

### Science

We will be looking at various ways of separating mixtures of materials. This will involve lots of practical work on sieving, dissolving, filtering and evaporating.

### RE

Our topic this term is Buddhism.

### Music

Mr Ramskill will continue with his Samba drumming lessons this term.

### PE

Our focus for this term is Sportshall (indoor) athletics and dance, and lessons take place on Mondays and Tuesdays. Could you make sure that the children have their PE kit on these days please? Thank you.

### Homework

#### Reading

The children choose a home reading book on Fridays which can be kept at home until it is changed on the following Friday. Please encourage your child to read regularly and share and discuss the book with them.

#### Spelling

I will send home a list of new spellings on Fridays ~ there will be a 'quiz' on the following Friday!

#### Maths

Quick recall of times tables helps children in all aspects of maths; this can only be achieved by regular practice. Please support your child in learning all their tables to 10.

Thank you for your co-operation, we look forward to continuing a great year!  
With best wishes,

Mrs Sheila Winwood, Year 4 Class Teacher

Mr Peter Fielding, Teaching Assistant / Cover supervisor