

Year 4 Half Termly Learning Update: Spring 2 2025



English

In English next half term, we are focussing on the text 'How to Train your Dragon' by Cressida Cowell.

We will be developing our inference, prediction, vocabulary and summarising skills over the course of our Reading sessions. This text is a more complex read to further challenge the children as we head into the second half of Year 4.

Our writing genres for next half term are instructions and non-chronological reports. Within these, we are going to be looking into how to look after a dragon, using ideas from our focus text. We will then research a range of different dragons from mythology, looking into their diets, habitats, appearance and talents. This information will help us to design our own dragon in the different styles, before producing a non-chronological report to explain what they are like to our readers.

Linking with our English topic next half term, we will be using our developing knowledge of Anglo-Saxons and Vikings within a range of subjects.

Maths

In Maths next half term, we will be continuing our study of money. We are going to be revisiting how to add and subtract amounts of money using our written column method. We will use concrete resources to embed the knowledge behind the value of coins and notes.

We will then be moving onto time where we will be converting days into week, and weeks into months. There will be word problems where we will be exploring the idea of adding and taking away minutes from given time.

Our measurement topic for next half term will involve looking into converting measurements of g, kg, ml, l, m and km. These will then be applied to addition, subtraction, multiplication and division style questions. We will be comparing amounts of measurements using our < (less than), > (greater than) and = (equal to) symbols.

Our final topic for Maths next half term will be perimeter and area. This will link the concepts of measurement and geometry together, before we move onto geometry fully within the Summer term.

So What?

“Where there is no struggle, there is no progress”

Our main curriculum driver this half term is history—We are going to be exploring the life and times of Anglo-Saxons and Vikings.

In these lessons we will be:

Exploring the everyday lives of Anglo-Saxons and Vikings, comparing them to our own modern lives.

Looking into where they originated from, and where they settled.

Exploring key events within the time periods of Anglo-Saxons and Vikings, such as the Battle of Hastings, the life of Alfred the Great and artefacts such as the Bayeux Tapestry.

Also in this topic we are:

Exploring the life and work of Georgia O’Keeffe, before creating our own piece of watercolour artwork in her style.

Discussing the use of algorithms and programming, and applying this to creating our own game using Scratch. We will be finding issues within our own coding and de-bugging them to show improvements.

By the end of this unit we will:

Create a non-fiction book about the Vikings and Anglo-Saxons, based on our ongoing research and findings from across the unit.

We have also arranged for a very exciting and interactive Viking workshop in school at the beginning of the Summer term as a post-unit treat for the children to enjoy.

