

Year 4

Curriculum Newsletter



Key information about Year 4

- The Year 4 topic of **How Do We Shape our World?** covers lots of different, but interconnected areas, such as the **water cycle** in science and geography and **Anglo Saxons and Vikings** in history. As always, we develop children's reading and writing skills within these topic areas, with the children creating their own historical stories, nature poems and explanations.
- In Year 4 it is important that all children are learning their multiplication tables from 1-12, especially as they will be part of the statutory **Year 4 multiplication test** in June. We have been testing the children on a daily basis in class (we call this 'The Magic 25') and over the last term there has been a significant rise in scores with many children achieving the maximum score. For those children who need more support, we will be giving specific support through a weekly multiplication club and also individual communications with families.
- Across the school we are having a big push on developing children's **vocabulary** in the school. To this end, we will be sending key vocabulary associated with the topic home. We also have '**Word of the Week**' - where the children across the phase try to use the chosen word in different areas of the curriculum, as well as in their learning and interactions at home. At all times, we will be asking children to explain their ideas without prompting, giving examples and offering as much relevant detail as they can.
- Children continue to have access to a rich variety of texts in the school library and class book corners. Quality daily guided reading and teacher readaloud sessions are prioritised with the recognition of the vital bearing reading has on children's progress and attainment.
- Guides for supporting children on how to use Google Classroom are available on the school website. If you have difficulty accessing the internet from home, please let your child's teacher know.

How can parents/carers help at home?

- This term, please support your child in memorising their **multiplication tables** (especially x6, x7, 8, x9, x12).
- Please read with your child everyday in order to support them in accessing all areas of their learning. We are looking for people at home to help with the **Year 4 READATHON** — raising money to go on a trip to the Docklands Museum (or perhaps even somewhere even further depending on how much we raise!). Please talk with your child and find out how the sponsorship works, and more specifically, the individual targets they will have set for themselves for their reading.
- Please encourage the children to talk about their learning and then, depending on their passions and enthusiasms, give them as much time, space and resources as you are able for them to carry out their **own research project** which they can then bring into school. We encourage all classes to have 'show and tell' sessions to share and celebrate such research.

Visits to go on at the weekend!

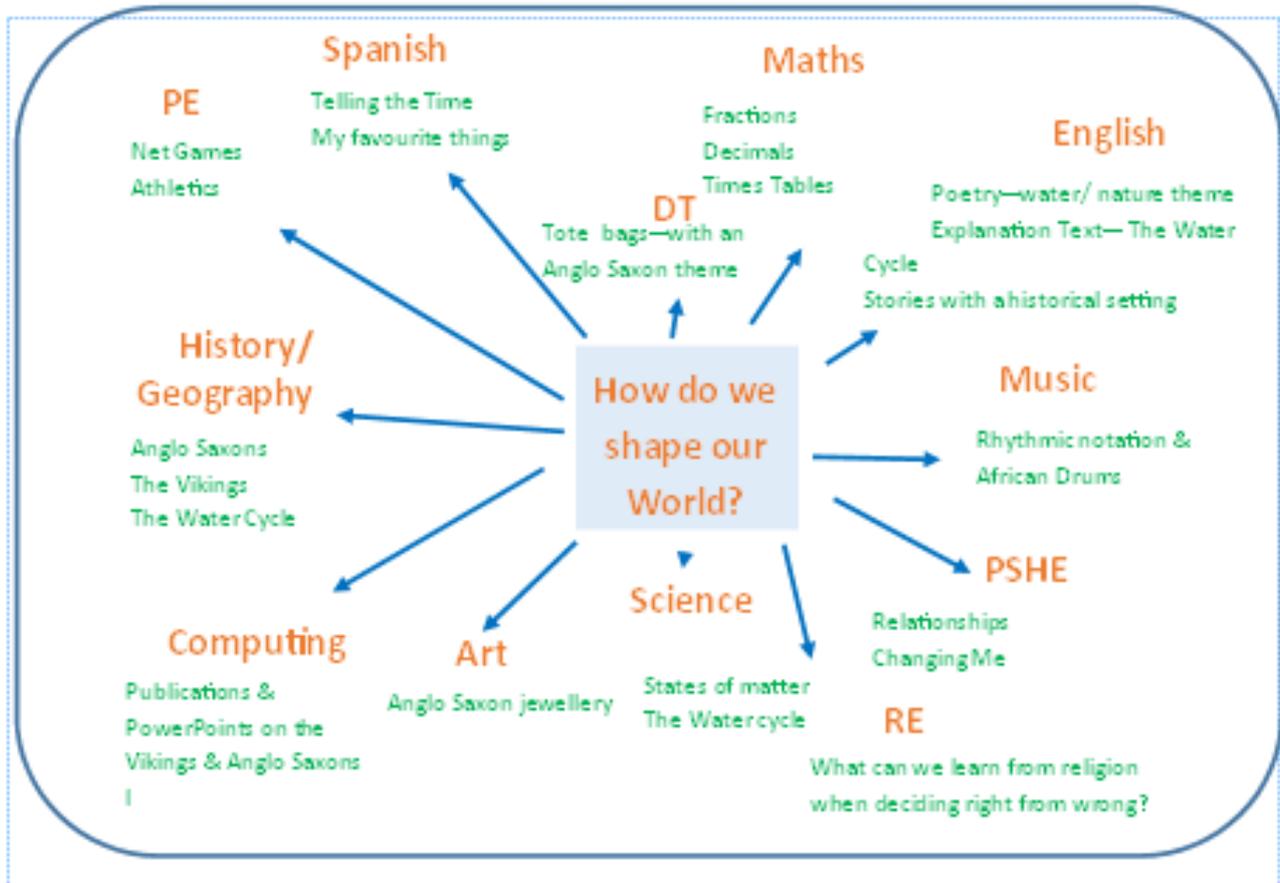
- The **Museum of London**, near the Barbican, tells the story of London. Entry is free and there are lots of exhibits from the Anglo Saxon and Viking periods. You can view their website here: <https://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/museum-london>
- The **British Museum** also has many Anglo Saxon and Viking artefacts and is always worth a visit as one of the most popular museums in the world
- The **Science Museum** also has many exhibits connected to the **water cycle** and **states of matter**

Things to make and do!

- Make your own water cycle using a plastic bag (lots of videos on YouTube)
- Make Viking jewellery using texts borrowed from the Idea Store or from the internet

Year 4's topic for the Summer term is

How Do We Shape Our World?



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