

Year 5 Newsletter



Aldwyn Primary School - Every Child a Success

Autumn Term 1

Thursday 4th September 2025
to
Friday 24th October 2025

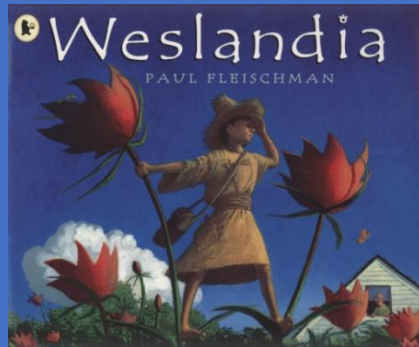


Theme – The Vicious Vikings



Our topic theme for this half term is called The Vicious Vikings. Across our creative curriculum, we will be learning all about the Vikings invading Britain. We will discover where the tribes originated and begin to uncover the lives of everyday people from this time period.

What will we read this half term?



Weslandia is a book about Wesley who, during the summer holidays, creates his own civilization called 'Weslandia' from a unique plant that grows in his back garden. This story celebrates individuality and encourages children to embrace their unique interests.

Gunnar is the son of a Viking chieftain, living peacefully on his family steading with his mother, father and their people – until they are raided by Skuli and his Wolf Men, who raze his home to the ground and take his father's life. Gunnar swears an oath to avenge his father's death and save his mother from Skuli – but first he must run to save himself. Murderous raiders, hand to hand battles to the death, mythical flying wolves and a relentless sea journey to the Land of Fire and Ice... Unknown to Gunnar, his life has been foretold, and he finds he has a destiny greater than his own story.

What will we learn this half term?

Please note that all of the Curriculum Overviews for each subject can be found on the school website. These contain detailed outlines of the coverage and rationales for teaching. Please take time to read them.

English

In English, we will be working on the following areas:

- Revisiting and embedding previously taught grammar and punctuation skills.
- Extended narrative writing inspired by 'Viking Boy'
- Writing a biography about Alfred the Great
- Understanding the features of an autobiography
- Our SPaG objectives include using expanded noun phrases, direct speech and effective vocabulary choices

We will also complete weekly guided reading, spelling and handwriting activities too.

Maths

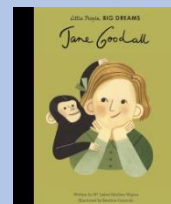
In maths, we will be working on the following areas:

- Place value and numbers up to 100,000
- Roman numerals to 1000
- Round to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000
- Compare and order numbers to 100,000
- Round numbers within 100,000
- Round numbers to 1 million
- Negative numbers
- Add whole numbers with more than 4 digits (column method)
- Subtract whole numbers with more than 4 digit

We will also be revising our multiplication and division facts, using the Times Table Rockstars website, which can also be accessed at home. Children have been given their login details and have been shown how to access the resources from home.

Science

Our science unit is 'Living Things and Their Habitats'. The children will explore reproduction in different plants, including different methods of pollination and asexual reproduction. They will learn about different types of mammals and their different life cycles. They will explore metamorphosis in insects and amphibians, comparing their life cycles. As part of our work in this unit, we will be sharing the story of Jane Goodall, who is the world's foremost expert on chimpanzees and an active conservationist.



Research Topic - History

Were the Vikings traders, raiders or something else?

We will:

- Explain where the Vikings came from and why they invaded Britain
- Sequence events according to their significance for groups of people
- Find evidence and make inferences from sources
- Name Viking trade routes
- Explain why trade routes were important to the Vikings
- Identify the differences between Viking sagas
- Evaluate the impact of Viking achievements

Music

Our music learning is focused around the song: Livin' On A Prayer. This is an integrated approach to music where games, the dimensions of music, singing and playing instruments are all linked. As well as learning to sing, play, improvise and compose with this song, children will listen and appraise other classic rock songs.

PSHE

Through the unit Being Me in My World, we will be focusing on self-esteem, team building and seeing ourselves and others in a positive light. As part of our work in this unit, we will be sharing the story of Audrey Hepburn; the famous actress who was also a tireless advocate for children's rights.



Design Technology

We will analyse and evaluate a range of existing fastenings and create Viking book covers. In addition to this, we will be reading about Iris Apfel, who was an iconic designer and fashion figure.



PE

PE sessions will be on Tuesday and Thursday. This term, the children will be playing Tag Rugby. They will learn how to refine passing and moving to create attacking opportunities, explore different passes that can be used to outwit defenders, refine defending as a team, create and apply defending tactics and develop officiating.

Our indoor sessions will refine the children's ability to apply effective teamwork through different problem-solving challenges. They will apply successful leadership and communication skills as they take responsibility for their team members.

RE

Our RE unit is a Christianity focus exploring the key question: What does it mean if Christians believe God is loving and holy? We will consider how Christians have to balance ideas of God being angered by sin and injustice but also how a holy and loving God might make a difference in the world today.

Computing

This term we will be looking at computer systems and networks. We will be learning how Google ranks pages and understand how they generate search results.

Foreign Languages

In this 'En Classe' unit, the children will learn to remember and recall 12 classroom objects. They will also learn to say and write what they have and do not have in their pencil case.

Homework

Every week homework will consist of reading and times tables to learn, and a piece of Maths and English work which will be handed out and collected in on a Monday. We would recommend that children spend time on the website <https://ttrockstars.com/> to keep up to speed with their multiplication and division skills.

Thank you for your continued support.
Kind regards,

Miss Hind and Miss Coles