



Head Teacher: Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

*Aim High*

*Never Give Up*

*Follow Your Dream*

*Lead By Example*

October 2014

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had an exciting and adventurous first term with our special assembly and wide spread learning. Now we look forward to launching our new learning theme for the next term of 2014.

### **MAIN LEARNING THEME – ‘Roman Rule’**

Year 4 will be learning about who the Romans were and where they came from, within this term’s main learning theme. To launch the topic, the children will take part in a simulated Roman Invasion. The theme will be linked across our Literacy (non-fiction), art, maths, music and extended writing work, and will incorporate the main focus in history. Religious Education will continue to be taught using the new Peterborough Guidelines.

### **Areas of study for the second half of the autumn term will include:**

- Roman armies, baths, religion etc
- What we have learnt from the Romans
- Building effective catapults
- How modern art was influenced by the Romans
- The fall of the Roman Empire

### **KEY VOCABULARY FOR LEARNING THEME:**

Time line, chronological order, AD, BC, sequence, events, time, year, emigration, immigration, settlement, invasion, invade, employment, refugee, Romans, Britain, invaders, map, atlas, travel, Scandinavia, Europe, UK, Denmark, Sweden, Italy, France, settle, evidence, customs, roman baths, artefacts, research, relevant, investigate, villas, facilities, Mosaic, Tesserae Empire, emperor, senator, senate, rule, republic, citizen, election, general, rulers, Roman gods, 12 Dei Consentes, Jupiter, Juno, Neptune, Mars, Venus, Pluto, Vulcan, Vesta, Apollo, Cupid, Temples, religion, worship, sacrifice, Thermae, washing, bathing, mosaics, aqueduct, hypocaust, Tepidarium, Calarium, Frigidarium, Strigil, gladiator, coliseum, legions, army, weapons, fighting techniques, defensive, retreat, cavalry, combat, powerful, formidable, force, push/pull, catapult, variable, Fair test, nvestigate, product, materials, Roman Empire, barbarian, emperor, Roman soldier, past, influence.

### **MATHS**

The main objectives are as follows: number and place value; calculations; fractions; measurement; geometry; statistics. We will be continuing our focus on mental maths and times tables. We will be working on **written addition and subtraction, written multiplication and division, fractions and decimals, geometry - position and direction, measurements, statistics**. The children will also learn to apply these to written problems and real life situations. Children across school will also continue to work regularly in small groups on our Assertive Mentoring programme.

### **ENGLISH**

The Read, Write Inc Literacy and Language programme has continued to be a great success through the school, and the children are continuing to enjoy this learning strategy. The partner work and focused vocabulary have helped to embed skills learnt in previous years and develop their comprehension and writing skills further. Next term, we will be studying **Poetry** and **journalistic recounts**. Some home reading that would support this could be ‘Heard it in the playground’ – Allan Ahlberg; ‘Don’t Tell the Teacher’ – Gervase Finn; ‘I like this Poem’ – Kaye Webb; ‘Boy: Tales of Childhood’ – Roald Dahl; ‘Matilda’ – Roald Dahl; ‘The Worst Witch Collection’ – Jill Murphy; any children’s newspaper.

### **TRIPS**

Next term we are hoping to visit the Peterborough museum to experience Roman Life at the end of November, the date will be confirmed shortly. The term after Christmas we will hopefully have a visitor from the National Trust come and work with us on how they work and what their rules are.



## **PE**

Children will continue to partake in two hours of PE each week. Please remind your child that they should bring their PE kit into school on a Monday, **leave it in school all week** then take it home to be washed on a Friday. This way, if we choose to do extra PE, the children will have their kit in school.

This should consist of:

- Plain white top
- Black or Grey shorts
- Black or Grey long bottoms for the colder weather
- Long sleeved top for the colder weather
- Spare white socks
- Plimsolls/Trainers

Can we remind you that school rules state that, for the safety of your child, earrings need to be removed for PE (which needs to be done independently) or plasters (provided by home) need to cover the earrings. Children with long hair will also be asked to ensure that it is tied back. Could you please ensure that **all** kit is **named** clearly and are checked on a regular basis when written onto labels.

## **PARENT/CARER INVOLVEMENT**

To make our topic learning more involved for your children, when you are at the library, watching television, or searching on the internet, you could focus some time on Roman life and how their Empire rose and fell. Also getting involved in the home learning projects with your child can make it a more fun and meaningful activity. It would also be helpful if you could discuss the learning done by the children and link it to their own lives and how the Romans have influenced how we live today. If any of your family members would like to join us on our trip to the museum or have any expertise in Roman history, please let us know if you would be willing to join us and help enhance our learning. Our assembly to celebrate our learning will be presented as a documentary of the learning children have made throughout the topic. It will be held in the last week of term before the Christmas break. The exact date and time will be confirmed after the half term break. It would be great if you could join us in an interesting end to the topic.

## **HOME LEARNING**

Your child will receive another termly POWER project which will be given out on the first Wednesday of the term. This has been very successful so far and the children have enjoyed creating their projects very much. These tasks will again enable the children earn POWER points. The children can choose from projects called 'Who were the Romans?' and 'Invasion and Battle'. These activities are not compulsory, but are a fantastic way to involve family and friends in their learning. The way in which the work is presented is entirely up to the child; the more creative the better!

In addition to this, every Wednesday the children will be given a literacy and maths task which is due the following Wednesday, and they will be awarded house points for their efforts on these tasks. This home learning is expected to be completed at home and handed in on time by the due date. If children do not meet this requirement then they will complete the home learning during break times. Can you please ensure that your child completes the literacy/maths home learning each week. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the class teacher.

## **BREAK TIMES**

Children may bring in a snack to eat at morning break but it must be a healthy option, and remember that we are a nut free school. Also, a Hot Meal option is available every day for your child's lunch. Please make payments by using ParentPay, our secure online payment system. Please contact the school office if you are experiencing any difficulties with ParentPay.

**LET'S CONTINUE OUR FABULOUS START TO THE YEAR AND HAVE FUN!!**

**It has been a great start to year 4 and I am thoroughly enjoying working with the year 4 children. Next term promises to be another exciting one, and we are sure we will have another fun and productive term up to Christmas.**

Yours sincerely

Miss Miller  
Class Teacher

Mrs Fenwick  
Teaching Assistant

Mrs Dunkley  
Teaching Assistant

Mrs Brittan  
Teaching Assistant

Mrs Reynolds  
Head Teacher

