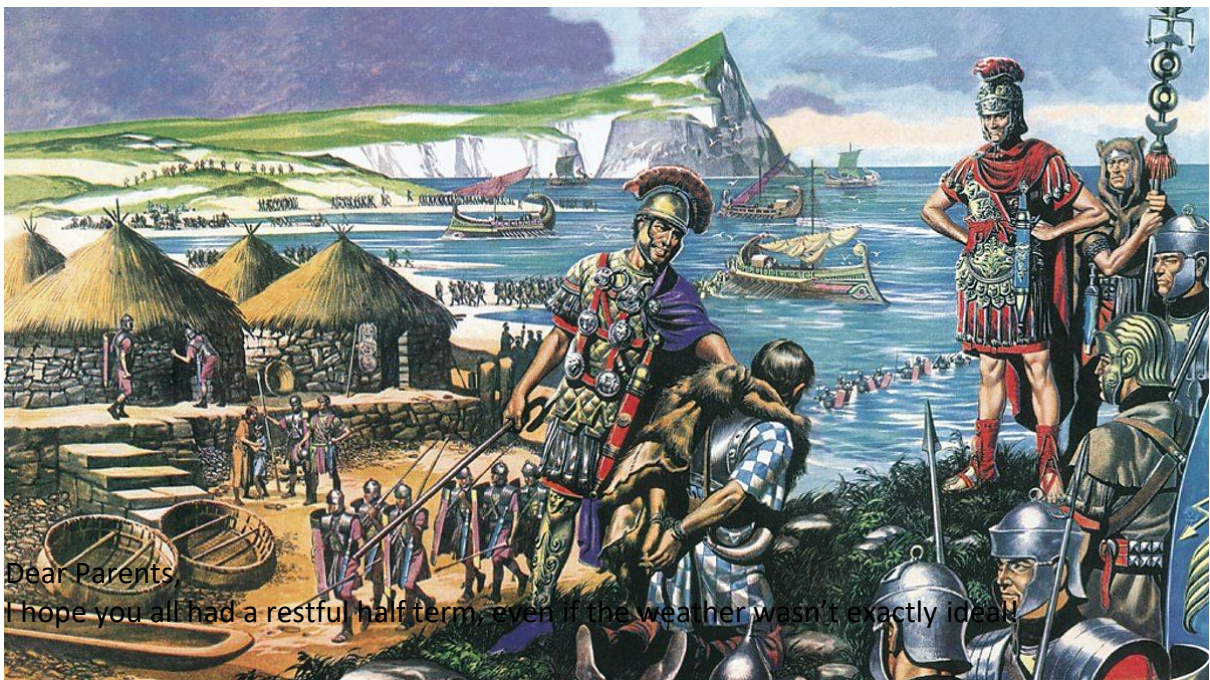




Year 4 Spring Term 2024

The Romans in Britain



Dear Parents
I hope you all had a restful half term, even if the weather wasn't exactly ideal!

This short half term sees a continuation of our Romans in Britain topic, where we will be continuing to learn about how and why the Romans settled in Britain. We will discover which modern-day towns and cities were either built or inhabited by the Romans, consider the different forms of primary and secondary sources that exist and what they tell us about life during this time, and find out why the Romans eventually left Britain.

We also have our visit to the Think Tank museum on **Friday 1st March** to support our science topic of Electricity. I know the children are very excited for our first off-site education visit as a class, and the day promises to be one of fascination and discovery!

As we enter the second half of the school year, our attention has begun to turn to the Year 4 Multiplication Check at the beginning of June. I'd like to remind you that I will be running a brief meeting to provide further information on this on **Tuesday 27th February**, but it is very important that the children continue to practise their tables at home to best prepare them for this. I have provided some information below about an additional homework task which will be set each week to help with this preparation. This work on times tables is also critical for the maths your child will be encountering throughout the rest of their formal education.

Once again, I thank you all for the support you are providing to enable the fantastic progress we are seeing this year throughout the whole class. It has been a fantastic first half of Year 4, and I'm sure we will see even higher levels being achieved by the children over the coming months!

Supporting learning at home:

- Encourage your child to read every day. We would love children to access a range of genres in their reading at home, including poetry, non-fiction and fiction.
- I'm delighted to have had some many children engaging with our Books to Read in Year 4! Thank you for encouraging your child with this, and the aim would be to have read four of the six books before Easter. We do have limited copies of each book in school for the children to borrow and take home to help them achieve this goal.
- In KS2, we are continuing the weekly reward of an extra break time on a Friday for any children who complete their homework and hand it in on time. Each class teacher will set their own criteria for earning this reward, and Year 4's is as follows:
 - Completing that week's maths homework **and** handing it in on time
 - Completing their weekly times tables homework
- Support and encourage your child to learn their spellings each week; little and often is best. Our weekly spelling test will continue to be on **Wednesdays**, and the spelling lists will either be on Google Classroom or written into your child's book.
- Children will continue to be set one piece of maths homework to complete each week.

Whilst I would encourage the children to complete this independently, please feel free to support your child with their homework. If there is anything they don't understand, please ask your child to come and speak to me for additional help **before** the homework is due in.

- We will now be setting a weekly task to help the children prepare for the Year 4 Multiplication Check in June. All they need to do is complete the Multiplication Tables Check quiz (accessible via Google Classroom) **three times** per week. They should record each of their scores in the special grid which will be stuck in their maths homework books. More information about this will be provided in the parents' meeting on **Tuesday 27th February**.

Dates for the Diary

- Tuesday 27th February – Parents' Meeting: Year 4 Multiplication Check
- Friday 1st March – Year 4 trip to Think Tank museum
- Tuesday 12th March – Year 4 music & poetry assembly

Each week

- This half term, children will have P.E. on **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays**. Please help to ensure they have the correct kit in school on these days.
- Spelling tests will be every **Wednesday**.
- Times table test will be every **Friday**.
- Homework will be set on a **Thursday** and due in on the following **Tuesday**
- Times tables homework will also be checked every **Tuesday**.

Please remember to come and talk to us anytime if you need to discuss anything.

Mr. Swards & Mrs. McWhirter

English

In English we will be learning to:

- Include effective dialogue in their writing
- Punctuate speech accurately
- Place subordinate clauses in different places to add variation to writing
- Use persuasive language
- Write a persuasive brochure
- Read a wider range of genres
- Be able to answer a wider range of reading comprehension questions

Maths

In maths, we will be learning the following skills through a range of fluency and reasoning & problem solving activities:

- To recall times table and division facts up to 12x12
- Read and decode Roman Numerals from 1-100
- Solve multiplication and division word problems
- Understand place value to 1 and 2 decimal places
- Order and compare decimal numbers

Spanish



We are delighted to have Mrs. Del Rio teaching our Spanish this year. She will be planning and co-ordinating the curriculum, and will begin by going over key Spanish greetings and conversation.

Art



Linked to our topic of the Romans in Britain, we will be looking at examples of Roman mosaics, working out how they are made and then looking to create our own artwork in this style.

Science



We will continue our topic of Electricity, which will involve exploring circuits, discovering different types of components and their effects on a circuit, and which materials conduct electricity.

P.E.



Our P.E. on Tuesdays will be based on improving our fitness through various HIIT activities. Thursdays will continue our sequence of work on gymnastics with Miss Ruby.

P.S.H.E



Our topic this half term will be based on developing our independence to look after our physical and mental wellbeing, including dental hygiene, mindfulness and ways to manage our emotions.

R.E.



In RE, we will be continuing our work on how different religions celebrate key milestones in life. Additionally, we will look at the Easter story and the importance of this time of year to Christians.

History



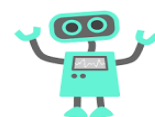
Our Romans in Britain topic will include why the Romans chose to invade Britain, some of the technologies and ways of life they brought, and how the impact of their civilisation can still be seen in the modern day.

Geography



We will be using our topic about the Romans to develop our map skills. This will include learning how to use grid references to locate places on a map, and even drawing our own sketch maps to show the layout of a Roman town.

Computing



As well as continuing our work on Online Safety, we will also have a computing day to learn further coding skills on Scratch. These will include loops and learning to code triggers for sequential commands.