



Willow Newsletter

Autumn Term 2021



Welcome to your new class! I am so excited to be your teacher and to have you as the first members of 'Willow' class! This newsletter will tell you all about what to expect in your first term in year 4, Make sure that you have a proper break this summer and are rested and well for when you return.

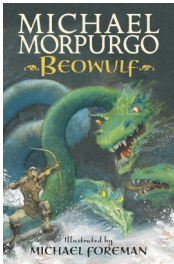
Learning This Term:

Our first topic is titled '**Adventurers: Rivers, Mountains, Settlers and Settlements**'. In this topic we will explore the physical **geography** of the planet, with a focus on the journey of rivers and how mountains are formed. We will also identify some famous mountains and rivers and explore our own local chalk stream. Linked to this, we will research how people make settlements around a source of water, which will link very well to our **history** topic: **The Anglo-Saxons, Picts & Scots**—an exciting period in British history, dating back to over 1500 years ago. Most of our **art** projects will link to these areas of geography and history, where we will use clay, textiles and painting to create historical artefacts and watercolour paintings.

In **science**, we will be focusing on our digestive systems and how important it is to look after our teeth, as well as understanding the difference between solids, liquids and gas. In **RE**, we will be focusing at first on the religions of Hinduism and Islam; we will have opportunities to explore important objects and festivals linked to these two religions.

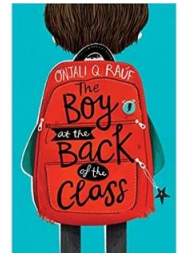
Music this term will be very exciting as we will be learning how to read and play rhythmic music, using percussion instruments, called *djembes*. We will look at invasion games in **PE**, including football, handball, basketball and hockey.

Our **Hook Day** for the topic will be on Wednesday 8th September. The theme will be based on the Anglo-Saxons and children are invited to dress up if they would like to.



Class Books:

We have some really great books to help inspire our reading and writing skills for this term. These include: '**The Boy at the back of the Class**' by Onjali Q Rauf, '**The Journey**' by Francesca Sanna, and a version of the famous folk tale '**Beowulf**' written by Michael Morpurgo.



PE

Thursday

PLEASE ensure that your child remembers to bring their **FULL** PE kit. Children will be going outside when possible and will need outdoor footwear and suitable clothing for the weather. It is very important that children take part in PE and that their attendance is not impacted by piercings or lack of appropriate kit.

Home Learning

Please continue to use the '**Go Read**' app to record home reading. The expectation is that children will record **3 reads each week**, which will contribute towards a *reward* at the end of the half-term. Practising **times tables** is *vital* for year 4 children, as they will take a **statutory assessment** on this in the summer term. An additional letter will be sent out with advice on this, during the year.

In addition to this, additional home learning will be set on Teams or in books, for some fun ideas linked to our curriculum.

We look forward to seeing you in September!
Mr Middleton & Miss Marsden

