



# Bishop William Ward C of E (VA) Primary School

*Happy, respectful, life-long learners*

Headteacher: Mr Toby Bull

12<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Dear Parents,

We hope that you have had a great summer. It is lovely to see how much the children have grown since we last taught them! We are looking forward to working alongside you again this year.

As before, Mrs Sanderson will teach on Monday and Tuesday, and Mrs Hale will teach on Thursday and Friday. Wednesdays will be alternated between us. Mrs Cozens will teach Wednesday afternoons covering our release time.

This term our main topic will be 'The Dark Ages-Really?' focusing on an enquiry into the times of the Anglo Saxons and Vikings. Further information about this (along with the other topics we will be covering this year) will be available on the Year 4 curriculum map, which will be updated on our website soon. After half term, we will be having a Viking experience day, with the option of coming into school dressed as a person from Viking times (details to follow). We will be asking for a contribution of £5 for this event. There are a couple of sites in Suffolk that you may wish to visit with your child to consolidate their understanding about the Anglo Saxons: Anglo Saxon village in West Stow and Sutton Hoo National Trust Site.

A great experience for the children in Year 4 is to have the opportunity to have a one night residential stay at Mersea Outdoor Activity Centre. The children had a fantastic experience last year and we are looking forward to taking this class in May (see below for dates). The cost of the trip usually comes in at about £90. We will be organising a meeting with you very shortly to give you more details about the event.

In Year 4, the children will be given two homework activities of approximately 20 minutes. A Maths or English task will be set by Mrs Sanderson on a Tuesday which is due in the following Monday. Spelling words or a grammar activity will be set by Mrs Hale on a Friday, due back the following Thursday. Children in Year 4 are expected to do ten minutes reading each day. We would encourage that three of these times are reading to an adult, as even though they are generally fluent and independent readers, the dialogue and deeper thinking that comes from sharing with an adult is still very important to help them move on. Dojo points will be issued to children who have read to an adult three times in a week as a reward for their extra effort.

This term our PE sessions will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please ensure that your child has their full PE kit in school every day, including trainers, as the session may change subject to the weather. We would like to reiterate the school's policy that earrings should not be worn for PE and therefore please ensure that your child either does not wear earrings on Tuesdays and Thursdays, or is able to remove them independently.

Volunteers are always welcome in our classroom and if you are interested in becoming more involved with the class, please feel free to contact us to discuss this further.

Bishop William Ward C of E (VA) Primary School  
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Dates for your diary: (more details to follow)

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October: Roman River Music Festival Performance

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November: Viking experience day (in school)

3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> May 2017: Year 4 residential to Mersea Island Outdoor Centre

We look forward to meeting with you at the parent/teacher meeting later this term, but if you have any queries or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact and/or book an appointment to meet with either of us.

Yours faithfully,

Susan Sanderson and Emily Hale

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