

## PE

We will be developing our coordination, agility and fitness through cricket and athletics this term. In cricket we will focus on our ability to bowl accurately, and in athletics we will develop our ability to jump, run and throw.

## Computing

We will be learning to use ICT to present information. We will turn data into charts and graphs using Excel, thinking about the way that these can make pages of numbers easier to understand. We will then combine charts, words and images in class presentations.

This half-term, we'll be learning about...



# INVADERS!

## MOLES - SUMMER 2023

## Science

Sorting and grouping living things  
We will be investigating the way that living things can be grouped - in particular by what they eat, by where they live and by their family (fish, reptiles, mammals etc.) We will use classification keys to sort and identify living things in the world around us and food chains to show how predators and prey are linked. We will also be thinking about the effect that humans have on our environment.

## The Arts

We will be working with clay this term, using a range of techniques to create pots. These will include coil pots, thumb pots and the use of slips to join sections together (for instance to add handles or decoration). We will then draw upon all of these skills to make our own pots, using themes from our history and English work to inspire our designs.

## Maths

Our main focus at the start of term will be on multiplication and division strategies. We will learn to use formal written strategies to multiply and divide 3-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers (solving calculations like  $216 \times 3$  or  $342 \div 6$ ). We will then use these strategies to solve a variety of problems. Later in the term we will be developing our understanding of position, direction and co-ordinates, plotting and translating shapes and beginning to identify acute and obtuse angles within them. Throughout the term, we will also continue to practice and learn our tables facts, aiming to recall all our facts up to  $12 \times 12$  in preparation for our tables check in June.

## Humanities

History : Anglo-Saxons  
Our focus for the next term will be the Anglo-Saxons. We will begin by placing them on a timeline, relating them to other periods and civilisations that we have already learnt about, before investigating their origins, including where they came from and why they invaded Britain in the 5th and 6th centuries.

We will identify the areas where they settled and discover the effect that they had on the lands that they moved to, particularly spreading Christianity and the first creation of an English nation. Finally we will discover what life was like for these warrior farmers, including investigating how they lived, what they ate and what it was like for young Anglo-Saxon children.

## English

We're focussing in legends in our next fiction unit, so expect lots of swords, heroes, monsters and historical settings. We will be using the story of Gwain and the Green Knight as our model, exploring the structure of this 'quest' tale and looking at how the author uses well-chosen adjectives to create lively settings and dramatic action sequences. We will also be investigating the use of adverbial phrases to link ideas and show when, where and how things happen. Building on our work from earlier in the year, we will also be developing our use of speech within stories to show characters' personality and feelings. Throughout the term we will also continue to work on our spelling, securing our knowledge of prefixes (mis-, dis-) and suffixes (-sion, -ous).



## PE

Keeping fit, happy and healthy is always important. There are links to lots of great resources and workouts to help everyone in the family get active at [www.sportengland.org/jointhemovement](http://www.sportengland.org/jointhemovement)

## Computing

- We're working on making charts and graphs this term, so keep an eye out for them on TV, newspapers or online - why are they used? What do they show? What has the person who made that chart done to make it easy to understand?

Ideas for supporting learning at home:



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## MOLES - SUMMER 2023

## Science

- Our work on grouping animals relies on us having lots of science knowledge, so talk about creatures you see when you're out and about - what do they eat? Where do they live? What other living things are they similar to? Don't worry if this involves some 'let's Google that when we get home' - realising that it's OK not to know everything is a Learning Superhero skill!

## The Arts

Make stuff! Clay might be a bit ambitious (and messy) for art projects at home, but you can practice lots of similar skills with other malleable materials (like playdoh and plasticine) or junk-model your own legendary characters. For ideas and inspiration, the fantastic Tate Kids site is a great place to start - head to [www.tate.org.uk/kids/make](http://www.tate.org.uk/kids/make)

## Maths

So much of what we do in class depends on the recall of tables facts, so it would be brilliant if you could work on these at home. Focus on one table at a time and try:

- Making-up rhymes to help remember number facts ("4 x 6 is 24, bears growl and lions roar!")
- Looking for numbers in that table in the world around you - on doors, car number plates, in phone numbers or when you're out shopping.
- Writing-out tables with finger paints, chalk or water-on-tarmac, or make them from playdoh.
- Chanting, singing, whispering... Say tables out loud together whenever you have the chance.

## English

- Constant practice of reading - and discussion of what's been read - is just about the most valuable thing you can do at home. Try to listen to your child as often as possible.
- Spelling homework goes out every Thursday, so please help your child to learn these. You can find more advice on supporting spelling at: [www.bedwell.herts.sch.uk/learning/spelling\\_strategies.pdf](http://www.bedwell.herts.sch.uk/learning/spelling_strategies.pdf)
- We're learning about legends - stories that merge history with magic and fantasy. Share some legends you know at home - like King Arthur, Robin Hood, Beowulf or Mulan. Books, movies and stories told from memory are all great ways to share these adventures.

## Humanities

- If you're looking for an afternoon out, many of our local museums have Anglo-Saxon finds and relics amongst their collections - including Stevenage, Hertford and Ware Museums (all of which are free to enter). Check their websites for more details on visiting.
- For a bigger day out, the British Museum in London has an impressive collection of Anglo-Saxon artefacts, including the Sutton Hoo finds that we'll be learning about in class. Again, this is free to enter (but it's a good idea to book tickets in advance).
- There are more resources to support the teaching of this topic on the BBC Bitesize history site at: [www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zxsbcdm](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zxsbcdm)