



Abbey Meads Community Primary School

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Dear Parents,

Term Three is here at last and with it our exciting residential. The main thrust of our new topic, *The Kingdom of Wessex*, will be a study of the Anglo-Saxon period, where the children will be learning about the migration and settlement of these Germanic and Scandinavian tribes in Britain.

As well as history lessons, the study will link to our English Writing units, where the pupils will adapt their skills for the style of journalistic writing to compose a series of newspaper reports. Our theme for this will be the Sutton Hoo Discovery, as well as a Saxon Artefact Dig on AMCP's playing field. Later on in the term, King Alfred the Great will be our subject, as we switch genres to biographical writing. The class novel this term is a direct link to the time period too, as we will be reading *Anglo Saxon Boy*, by Tony Bradman. Not only will the children have the chance to enjoy listening to the story, we will study the book and use it as stimulus for our reading comprehension lessons, alongside non-fiction extracts, linked to this time period.

Maths will remain a stand-alone subject, away from the main topic theme. We will be securing facts, methods and strategies for mental and written multiplication and division, in order to keep it fresh in the children's minds. This will enable the children to understand the next element of the Maths better, which will be perimeter. Following this, we will conclude the term with a fractions unit. To help your children, please encourage them to maintain their daily practice on Times Table Rocks Stars, as this will really make a difference for them secure all key number facts.

Science this term is all about sound, how it travels and how we hear. Children will have the opportunity to experiment and develop their understanding through practical experimentation and investigation, as well as making their own instruments. If you have any useful items for this in your recycling at home, please bring them in. Shoe boxes, bottles and various tube shapes will all be useful for pupils to construct kitchen junk musical instruments.

PE this term will take a slightly different format than previous terms. Forest School will make up our Monday afternoon PE slot, since it is also part of the Outdoor Adventure Activity strand of the PE Curriculum. Children will need to bring in their Forest School Kit every Monday of this term. Term 3 is often the coldest, wettest part of the year, so please ensure your child is suitably layered for these sessions, along with a change of clothes, in the event we get wet and muddy. Our other PE session will be Tuesday, where the focus will be 'Child Choice'. Pupils will have a hand in designing a course of lessons, based upon skills they wish to develop in Physical Education, such as effective teamwork, being a positive competitor and leadership.

One of the most anticipated events this term is our residential to The Wilderness. Just to remind everyone, 4Sycamore are going on the 23rd January and returning on Wednesday 25th and 4Rowan are going on the 25th of January and returning on Friday the 27th. A letter went out this week with all the latest information you will need to help prepare your child, including the kit list.

Following the residential, it will be our class assembly, which will take place on the revised date of Thursday 9th February. As we continue to move away from previous COVID restrictions, will have just one performance that morning, at 9:00 am, where we welcome parents from both Sycamore and Rowan.

If you have any questions or concerns relating to any of the aspects mentioned above, we are both at the door of our classrooms in the morning and at the end of school so please don't hesitate to come and chat.

Thank you,

The Year 4 Team