



# Year Four News

February 2024

Mayhill Junior School, The Bury, Odiham, RG29 1NB  
01256 702 973

## Vikings: Traders or Raiders?



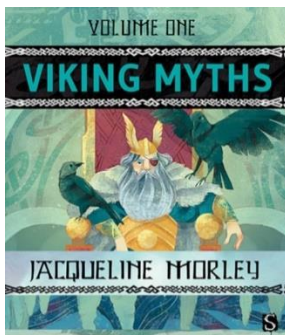
Our enquiry question for history this half term is: **'Were the Vikings just raiders?'** We will be continuing our timeline after the Anglo-Saxons with the arrival of the Vikings. We will look at stereotypical views of Vikings verses reality based on primary and secondary sources, looking at various Viking long boats and investigating why there is such a negative image around them. To present our findings we will be adding to a personal zig-zag book each lesson, building up our knowledge. Before finishing off with a class treasure hunt for Viking evidence.

### Mayhill Habit

## RESILIENCE

Each half term has a different Mayhill Habit which the children will enquire into, develop a deeper understanding of and be able to explain how they are able to apply this habit into their own learning and life. This half-term's habit of focus is **RESILIENCE**.

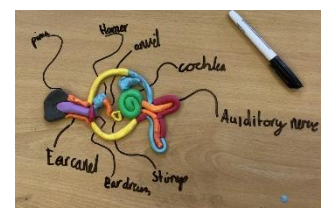
### English



Our first text this half term is "Viking Myths" by Jacqueline Morley, which is an anthology of some of the most gripping and memorable stories of Norse mythology. The children will be writing a diary entry as Loki, the mischief maker and then their own narrative in a style of a Viking myth. In our Guided Reading lessons, we will be focussing on themes and conventions in a variety of different text styles by using dictionaries, Viking myths, scientific biographies and other non-fiction information texts.

### Science

Our science focus continues to be the ear. We have tracked sounds and created modelling clay ears to understand how the ear works. This term we will be focussing on investigations; by collecting decibel and hertz readings using data loggers on the ipads. We will be looking at how sound travels and how we can change this e.g. muffle or stop the sound.



**INDEPENDENCE**  
**COMMUNICATION**

**CRITICAL THINKING**  
**RESILIENCE**

**COLLABORATION**  
**RESPECT**

## Maths

Moving on from last half term's multiplication and division, we will be introducing the concept of area and how this can be calculated using squares as a unit of measure. Following this, the Maths for this half term is focused on fractions (including decimals) we will be recapping any learning that was taught during Year 3. By recapping, the children should feel confident in progressing into fractions of amounts involving problem solving.



Please can you support your child by ensuring they complete their maths homework each week and encouraging them to log on to Times Tables Rock Stars for regular times tables practice. Later on this year, year 4 will be completing the MTC (Multiplication and Tables Check) set by government. The purpose of the MTC is to determine whether pupils can recall their times tables fluently, which is essential for future success in mathematics. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiplication-tables-check-information-for-parents/multiplication-tables-check-information-for-parents-text-version--2>

## DT & Computing

An exciting term awaits as we will be working towards creating our own healthy snack bars. A questionnaire is available for parents to complete [here](#) (written by the children). The children would welcome responses on this in order to have completed their "market research" part of their unit and evaluate this next lesson. Parents of children with allergies, please rest assured this is covered within our planning and resourcing, but as always, any questions do not hesitate to get in touch.

## PE/Games

Children have two PE sessions each week, with each session lasting an hour – including changing time. It is really important that children have their kit in school on these days. As the weather is now getting wetter and cooler please ensure that your child has black or navy blue tracksuit bottoms in their kit and a **non-hooded** sweatshirt (not their school jumper).

- **Tuesday** – Indoor: Dance
- **Wednesday** – Outdoor: Hockey
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## Homework

Each week your child will have Reading, Times Tables (TTRS) and Spellings to complete at home. Alongside these tasks, each Wednesday a Maths and Reading weekly workout will be set which is due in the following Monday.

We are all very much looking forward to an exciting half-term. If you have any questions or comments about your child's learning, do send a note in or come speak to us.

Kind regards,

The Year Four team  
*Miss Collis, Mrs Lavers and Miss Scholes*

### Dates for the diary:

#### February:

19<sup>th</sup>-return to school  
19-23<sup>rd</sup> Pentathlon week

#### March:

4<sup>th</sup> author visit  
7<sup>th</sup> World Book Day  
7<sup>th</sup> WONKA Bar event- FOMS  
11-16<sup>th</sup> Science week  
15<sup>th</sup> – Red Nose Day  
18<sup>th</sup> – Last week clubs  
20<sup>th</sup> – Voice in million trip  
21<sup>st</sup> FOMS Movie Night  
25<sup>th</sup> -Easter Egg hunt  
26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> Parents' Evening  
27<sup>th</sup> Rock Steady Concert  
28<sup>th</sup>- Last day of term

#### April:

15<sup>th</sup> - Summer Term starts