

WHY DID THE
ROMANS INVADE
BRITAIN?

STJB Oak Class

May 2018

Rampaging Romans

Dear Parents,

And here we are in the final term of the academic year; and although I feel I say it every term—this one's really busy! Year 6 National curriculum tests (NCTs) and writing assessments, sports events and ultimately the year 5/6 production.

The topic for the term is Romans, focussing on the invasion of Britain at the beginning of the second millennium. We have arranged a visit in May to Bignor - a local Roman site, where we will be taking part in a number of workshops. We will also be having a Roman Invasion afternoon later in the term. Details to follow.

The year 5 children will continue to work with Holly Class on Monday to Wednesday mornings, whilst the year 6 children continue to prepare for the NCTs.

In our English lessons, the children will be using a selection of stimuli about the Romans for their writing. They will then be choosing their own genre to apply all that they have learnt about producing good quality writing.

In Maths, we will be applying all the methods and concepts that have been learnt to solve mathematical problems. The children will continue to develop their reasoning skills and expand their mastery of the subject.

In Science, the children will be learning about animals including human beings, including adaptation and evolution. Among many areas, they will learning about nutrition, skeletons and how animal and humans have evolved. The children will be continue to develop the investigation skills, developing their scientific understanding and language to explain their findings.

For part of the first half term, for three mornings a week, the year 5s will be joining Holly class, whilst the year 6s work on the skills and strategies that will support the development of life-time skills, as well as boost their confidence for the National Curriculum tests in May.

Spellings— These should be practised daily, using the spelling timetable as a guide for the activities. If an activity does not fit the spelling list, any other activity can be completed. The spelling and the activity list are on Moodle although the spelling list may change as we focus on misspellings that are still rearing their ugly heads .

Reading—The children should read everyday (hopefully for pleasure), and even in year 5 and 6 there is a great benefit in reading, sharing and discussing a text with an adult.

Weekly Homework—Homework will vary this term, with test revision for year 6s in the second half term.—BBC bitesize has some great fun activities that support this.

Any questions? Please email me at tstoner@wsgfl.org.uk

During **PE**, Oak class will be practising the country dancing and the Maypole in preparation for the Summer Revels. They will also be developing their athletic skills: running jumping, throwing. They will also be developing their tennis skills.

In Art, the children will be creating images, using words. We will also be designing and constructing Roman shields. We hope to be dying material using natural substances and decorating these in a Roman style.

The Oscar-potential production will go into rehearsals after the half term, so prepare yourselves for demanding divas and Hollywood style tantrums coming your way. Details will follow.

We will also be continuing with our **ELLI** initiative, which encourages our children to look at how they learn. We continually look for opportunities to reward the children for exhibiting the attributes of the ELLI animals. We would like the children to also to identify when they see ELLI qualities in their peers.

Alongside all of this will be continue with the **Open Futures** initiatives. In **Cookit**, the children will be creating Roman and Italian recipes. The children will have opportunities to explore **AskIt**, where they will be discussing philosophical aspects of various topics including those linked to Romans and R.E. In **Filmit**, the children are learning to use Gigasets, and then imparting their knowledge onto me.

During R.E., we will be considering how Jesus would react or behave in situations that he would possibly face in the modern era. The children may be able to use this to help them consider what to do when they or others are faced with difficult circumstances.

National Curriculum week commences 14th May 2018. There will be breakfast club Monday to Thursday. Full timetable and details to follow.