



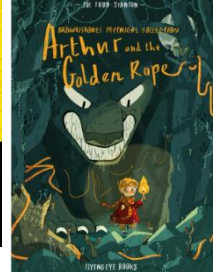
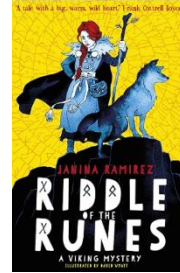
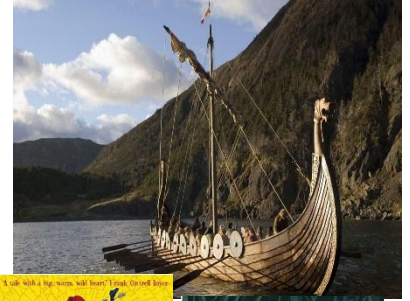
Northenden Community School

Curriculum Information for Parents

Class Year 5 (Miss McGovern)

Term Autumn 1 2026 (8 weeks)

Theme Were the Vikings raiders, traders or something else? (History)



THE BIG IDEA

This half term, we will travel back to the Viking Age to investigate who the Vikings really were and the impact they had on Britain. Rather than simply accepting the common image of Vikings as fierce raiders, we will act as historians by examining a range of evidence and considering whether the Vikings were also traders, settlers and explorers.

We will investigate why the Vikings came to Britain, where they travelled and traded, how Viking raids and settlements affected local communities and what the Vikings achieved. Throughout the unit, we will develop our understanding of chronology, historical evidence and how different sources can give different interpretations of the past.



In READING lessons, the children will ...

- Develop comprehension through prediction, vocabulary, retrieval, inference, summarising and comparison.
- Read and discuss a historical fiction text, using evidence from the text to explain ideas and justify responses.
- Retrieve and record key information, infer characters' thoughts and motives.



In WRITING lessons, the children will ...

- Revisit and apply a range of sentence structures, including compound and complex sentences, to develop cohesion and variety in writing.
- Introduce and begin to apply relative clauses to add detail and expand ideas.
- Create a section of a mythical narrative inspired by *Arthur and the Golden rope*.



In MATHEMATICS lessons, the children will...

- Develop secure place value understanding with numbers up to 1,000,000.
- Apply efficient addition and subtraction strategies, including problem solving.
- Develop multiplication and division fluency, using formal methods.



In COMPUTING lessons, the children will

- Understand how search engines work, including web crawlers and how results are ranked.
- Develop effective searching skills using keywords to find relevant information. Evaluate online information, recognising inaccurate content and considering copyright and fair use.



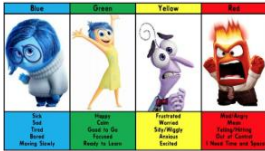
In **SCIENCE** we will ...

- Investigate and compare material properties, including hardness, transparency and conductivity.
- Explain how the properties of materials influence their uses.
- Identify and describe reversible changes, including dissolving and changes of state.
- Explore irreversible changes, including burning, rusting and mixing material.



In **Religious Education** we will learn...

- Explore how people hold different beliefs about God and how these beliefs may shape their responses.
- Understand and use key vocabulary including theist, atheist and agnostic.
- Develop respectful discussion skills when exploring different religions and worldviews.



At the beginning of the term, we will be exploring Inside Out and the Zones of Regulation project, focused on helping children to recognise, understand and regulate their emotions. This will support children in developing greater self-awareness, emotional vocabulary and strategies for managing their feelings positively and independently.



In **ART AND DESIGN** we will ...

- Explore how line and mark-making can express emotion and movement.
- Develop techniques using tone, depth and composition to create effective drawings.
- Create and refine a printed final piece, inspired by artists such as Charlie Mackesy and Elizabeth Catlett.



In **MUSIC** we will ...

- Develop understanding of staff notation, including pitch and rhythm.
- Compose and record short musical ideas using notation and repeated patterns.
- Perform and refine compositions, considering structure, dynamics and musical effect.



In **PSHCE** we will ...

- Understand how nutrition and food choices support a healthy body.
- Explore the importance of physical activity and how different types of exercise affect wellbeing.
- Recognise and manage strong or complex emotions using appropriate self-regulation strategies.



PE lessons will take place on WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY.

In our PE lessons, the children will ...

- Develop balance, control and coordination through a range of gymnastics movements.
- Explore and link jumps, rolls, shapes and travelling actions into short sequences.
- Refine and perform movements with increasing fluency, accuracy and confidence, working safely with others.



OTHER INFORMATION

- Homework will be set each Friday to consolidate and extend learning from the week.
- Children will complete a weekly spelling test every Friday to support accuracy, vocabulary development and spelling fluency.



YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILD AT HOME BY ...

- Reviewing their previous school report together and encouraging them to work towards their individual targets.
- Reading regularly together and taking an active interest in their learning and progress.
- Supporting them to complete homework on time and to the best of their ability.