



BECOMING BRITAIN

The Big Idea...

This royal throne of kings, this sceptred isle, this earth of majesty, this fortress built by Nature for herself. This blessed plot, this earth this realm... this England! (Shakespeare)

As the Romans returned home from Britain, an opportunity for someone other than Mother Nature to build a fortress presented itself! The Anglo-Saxons, and then the Vikings, migrated, invaded and settled here. Later, the French conquered Britain. This half term study of how this period of history has shaped our land and left its mark is a fascinating one. As we consider a new and exciting multi-cultural Britain, it is perhaps worth reflecting on the fact that it started back in 793 A.D....

As language specialists we will...

Immerse ourselves learning from one the greatest story writers – Roald Dahl – and his fantastic *The Witches*. We'll examine his work in both our guided reading lessons and our grammar and written activities in our English lessons. As we progress, we will examine his ability to describe characters (creating our own witches in the process!) and much more. After this, our attention turns to the mighty *Beowulf* and his superb battles with the evil monster Grendel. Michael Morpurgo's adaptation is exemplary in its detail of blood, guts and historical terminology that delights and enraptures alike! We will use his vivid writing to allow us to create grizzly wanted posters, newspaper articles decrying Grendel's barbarous attacks, letters of safe passage across the treacherous North Sea and more! Pupils will write creatively several times a week as they build stamina in both non-fiction and narrative work. Whole class guided reading this half term will be based around the books outlined above. The Year 5 Grammar Punctuation and Spelling curriculum will be taught through explicit sessions and rehearsed through comprehension and writing.

As mathematicians we will...

Start the term by consolidating our fluency with number and place value up to 1,000,000. Of course, as we move through place value we take the opportunity to visit our friends – The Romans – and their ancient system of numbering building upon our knowledge from year four. Once this learning is embedded, we will progress onto more formal and mental addition and subtraction. After, we will revise and building confidence with working with larger numbers in column addition and subtraction, where children will rehearse multi-step problem solving and reasoning questions.

As geographers we will

Be mapping the migration in Europe during the 4 to 11th. We will be locating areas where settlements and Kingdoms of Anglo-Saxon England were identified. We will discover the Anglo-Saxon language that was used to name towns and villages that still exist today. We will use maps to understand the plans behind Viking raids and understand the impact of this period of history on the geographical development of our island.

'Children will develop contextual knowledge of the location of globally significant places – both terrestrial and marine – including their defining physical and human characteristics and how these provide a geographical context for understanding the actions of processes...'

As historians we will

Continue the historical timeline and move on to investigate the 7 Anglo-Saxon kingdoms and learn what life was like, for peasants in particular, by looking at archaeological artefacts and other primary sources. We will explore the invasion of the Vikings. Our study will take us on to England becoming united under King Edward and how the timeline continues to the Battle of Hastings and the Norman Conquest.

'understand historical concepts such as continuity and change, cause and consequence and use them to make connections... Understand the methods of historical enquiry, including how evidence is used rigorously to make historical claims, and discern how and why contrasting arguments and interpretations of the past have been constructed...studying the Viking and Anglo-Saxon struggle for the Kingdom of England to the time of Edward the Confessor.'

As scientists we will

Predict, investigate and compare the properties of materials including electrical thermal conductivity and solubility. We will consider how this impacts the design of everyday objects. We will experiment with solids, liquids and gases to filter, dissolve and evaporate. Through this we will learn the importance of a fair test and write well-structured scientific reports that draw supported conclusions.

*Curriculum as detailed in the Year 5 properties and changes of materials unit.
'Planning different types of scientific enquiries ...taking measurements, using a range of scientific equipment... create scientific diagrams and graphs, make predictions to set up further comparative and fair tests... present findings from enquiries, including conclusions, causal relationships and explanations...'*

Across the curriculum

As musicians

We will rejoice in coming together as the Willow Brook community again to extend our musical knowledge through singing. Children will learn about rhythm, pitch and tempo as we listen and perform.

As expressive artists and designers

We will develop different ideas which can be used to investigate materials and techniques of the artist Grayson Perry. The children will use his 'Map of Days' to represent their own life stories in a medium of their choice.

As computer specialists

We will learn key lessons on internet safety, both from the perspective of being responsible users of technology and in awareness of protecting ourselves.

As fitness experts

We will focus on the skills involved in a team sport such as football. We will understand when to attack and defend, mark players safely and work as a team to develop tactics. We will play games to the appropriate rules and given positions.

As Philosophers

Over the half term children will be considering what we can learn from great leaders and inspiring examples in today's world. They will explore the lives of key religious leaders from modern times such as Dr Martin Luther King Jr and Gandhi.

Knowledge of the World

Other cultures and styles have continued to impact on a society. From castles and conquests to artists and philosophers, we continue to change through the influence and inspiration of others. Our half term's topic builds the children's knowledge of people and places.

Citizenship, British Values

The term's theme is 'Relationships'. We will look at managing friendships and peer influences, consider safe relationships and what 'feeling safe' means. In a multicultural Britain we will recognise prejudice and discrimination and understand how a community travels and comes together.

Ambition and Possibilities

In a world where migration happens regularly, what opportunities are open to you as you think about your future career and prospects, what might you dare to dream?