

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the second half of the autumn half term. The children have returned to school excited about their new topic and are eager to begin learning. Our new topic this half term is Vicious Vikings. The children will be learning all about the reasons behind the Viking invasion and the legacy of Viking culture.

In literacy we will be continuing to develop skills in spelling, grammar and handwriting. We appreciate your ongoing support with our weekly spelling test and would ask that children complete their weekly task from their spelling booklet each week. We will also be learning about news reports and stories with historical settings. We hope to surprise you with some exciting Viking drama and riddles.

We thank you for your support with weekly mental maths tests and ask if this can continue this half term. Tests will go home on Fridays and children are encouraged to work through corrections at home.

In science we will be experimenting with temperature, heat transference and insulating against the cold.

The quality of home learning this year has been outstanding and we hope this continues into our new topic.

In order for the children to continue to make the most of this year they must make sure they are well organised, remembering to bring reading records (signed by a parent/carers) and planners daily. Children need to remember to bring appropriate P.E kits to school on a Monday and take them home at the weekend. Ongoing school/home learning also includes the learning of spellings and times tables.

We are looking forward to another great half term. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

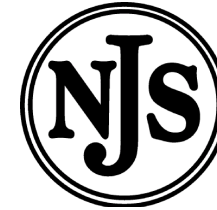
Here are the upcoming events for this half term:

- Friday 15th November—Trip to Jorvik Viking Centre (Children to come to school for this visit in their "P day" clothes)
- Thursday 28th November— Christmas Bazaar
- Friday 6th December— Christmas craft afternoon from 1.30pm (parents/carers welcome, letters to be given out nearer time)
- Thursday 19th December—Christmas party (children to bring cakes and biscuits)

The Year 4 Team
Miss Oliver, Mrs Jenkins, Mrs Hall
Mrs West, Mrs Longmire

Name

NJS Home Learning Log



Year 4

Vicious Vikings



Autumn 2

Topic: Vicious Vikings

Task	Choice of Home Learning tasks.	Work completed?	Parent comment.	Teacher comment.
1	The Vikings wrote using runes. Can you find the Viking alphabet and write a secret message to someone in the class?			
2	Can you make replicas of Viking coins and or jewellery to create your own Viking hoard?			
3	Make your own Viking weapon (shield , sword or battle axe)			
4	The Vikings loved riddles. Can you write your own riddle for your classmates to solve?			
5	Research an aspect of Viking life you are interested in. (Make sure that you understand everything you have found) Can you present it in an interesting way?			
6	Make a poster to attract warriors for a Viking raid.			
7	Write a diary extract of a Viking raid from the view point of either the Viking warrior or an English monk (following lesson in school).			

Note to parents

Dear Parents,

We are now well underway with our new home learning log tasks. The quality of the work that is being handed in is outstanding and shows a real range and depth of thinking. We hope that you find your new half terms tasks exciting and engaging!

At the start of each half term the children will be given a home learning log like this one which they must keep for the duration of that half term. The home learning activities will be linked to the topic that the children are focussing on at that time and the activities will be carefully chosen to develop different skills in relation to a variety of curriculum subjects. The children will be able to chose the order in which they want to complete the activities. It is hoped that this will encourage the children to organise their time and to plan in advance so they can gather relevant materials to complete the art / design based tasks. There will be more home learning activities than there are number of weeks in that half term. It is hoped that this will allow the children to make independent choices about which tasks they would like to undertake. If the children bring in a piece of work by Friday of each week they will receive a merit to go on the class chart. Children can obtain merits for a number of reasons and they add up at the end of the school year and can be cashed in for prizes.

This year all home learning will be displayed in year group areas to allow the children to feel proud of the quality work that they have produced. We hope that this will create interest and give the children the opportunity to learn from others, as well as further reinforce just how much the children and staff value home learning in Norton Junior School. As you can see there is space for teacher and parent feedback for each home learning task to allow continued dialogue between home and school, please feel free to comment on the task or the work that your child has produced.