

Hedgehog Class September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to a new year at Teynham Primary School. We hope you have had a great summer and a restful break. We are very much looking forward to working with your child this year and seeing all that they can achieve.

Topic – Invasion!

In the Invasion project, your child will explore the effects of the Roman withdrawal and the chronology and geography of subsequent invasions. They will study the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings in detail, examining their reasons for invading, their settlements and their everyday life. Your child will also look at monasteries and the Anglo-Saxon legacy. They will consider how we know about life in this period and investigate the Sutton Hoo ship burial. They will learn about Athelstan, an Anglo-Saxon king, and what happened after his death, before ending the project by learning about the Norman invasion of 1066.

English

In English, your child will be reading the class novel 'The King Who Threw Away His Throne' by Terry Deary. They will complete reading comprehension tasks linking to this novel. In addition, they will create their own poem based on Beowulf, and a playscript about the Anglo Saxons. Your child will also work on developing the following grammar skills: identifying and using nouns and pronouns, using the past tense, writing subordinate clauses, identifying adjectives, using the present tense and using apostrophes. Your child will also have daily spelling/ phonics lessons.

In Term 2, your child will be reading 'Odd and the Frost Giants'. They will be writing myths linked to Norse mythology and creating a non-chronological report about Anglo Saxons.

Maths

In Maths, your child will begin by working on place value up to one thousand, including comparing and ordering numbers. They will then progress to adding and subtracting 2 and 3 digit numbers and estimating answers. After this, they will move on to learn about multiplication and division with a focus on 2, 3, 4 and 5 times tables.

Science

In Science, they will learn about the features of ecosystems and the meaning of new terminology, including 'biotic', which means living, and 'abiotic', which means non-living. They will learn about two scientific diagrams, a food chain and a food web, finding out what these diagrams are and what they show. They will discuss the similarities and differences between food chains and food webs and sketch examples. They will discuss the challenges different ecosystems face from human activities such as pollution or natural events such as deforestation. They will then learn about the digestive system of humans, naming the digestive organs, describing their functions and finding out what happens to the food they eat. They will learn the names and functions of the four types of human teeth and identify the differences between the teeth of carnivores, herbivores and omnivores.

In Term 2, your child will be learning about Sound. They will find out how sound travels and how we hear sounds. They will also learn about changing volume and changing the pitch of sounds. They will complete investigations linked to sound.

RE

In RE, your child will begin by learning about the Creation Story, with a focus on the question: What do Christians learn from the Creation Story? They will learn about the

concepts of God. They will be able to make clear links between Genesis 1 and what Christians believe about God. Your child will be encouraged to ask questions and suggest answers about what might be important in the creation story.

After this, your child will begin to learn about Incarnation, with a focus on the question: What is the Trinity? Your child will understand that John is part of a "Gospel". They will also learn how Christians show their beliefs about God the Trinity in the way they live.

ICT

In ICT lessons, your child will be learning about online safety and understanding the internet. In term two your child will look at Audio production leading them to create their own podcasts.

PSHE

In term one, your child will cover the topic "Being me in my world", where they will learn about inclusion and importance of their own being within school. In term two your child will cover the topic "Celebrating difference". Here they will learn about how every person is different and the importance of treating people equally.

Reading and Home Learning

Your child will receive a reading book in accordance with their ZPD. Your child will be expected to bring in their reading book and record daily. It is important that your child reads daily so that they are able to make as much progress as possible. Please fill their reading record in at home to show the reading your child has completed. Do let us know if they have enjoyed the book. We do also like hearing about any other books they have been reading at home.

Your child will also receive home learning weekly. Please complete each week in their home learning book or feel free to email it to me. Home learning will be sent out on a Friday and needs to be returned the following Wednesday. I also encourage your child to log on and complete their Timestable Rockstars and EdShed activities at home as well as at school. This continuous practise is beginning to show good progress. Log in details should be found in homework books or reading records.

P.E.

This term, PE lessons will take place on Mondays and Thursdays. Please ensure that your child wears a full PE kit (fully white t-shirt, fully black shorts/jogging bottoms and plimsolls/fully black trainers) in school on these days so that they can fully participate in the lessons. No earrings are allowed to be worn during P.E. lessons, therefore they need to be able to take them out themselves, or have them taken out in the morning before school.

If you need to contact me at any point, please email me at t.donoghue@teynham.kent.sch.uk

Kind regards,
Miss Donoghue
Year 4 Class Teacher