

## Supporting your child's work at home - Autumn Term 2014

### Science

- Look round your house and identify four things made of; wood, metal, plastic, leather, paper, glass
- Investigate; hot - cold, hard - soft, rough - smooth, shiny - dull, bendy - rigid, transparent - opaque, waterproof - absorbent
- We will be asking questions such as; Why is this made of wood? Why is this a hard material?

### Topic

- Go to the library and look for books, especially picture books on Vikings and Anglo-Saxons
- Visit the Birmingham Museum and have a quick look at the Staffordshire Hoard (of jewellery)
- If you are really keen and have the opportunity, you could visit the Yorvik Viking Museum in York
  
- Use the Purple Mash login that we have sent you and look up the Vikings and Anglo-Saxons on the website

## Upper Key Stage 2 - Curriculum

In Upper Key Stage 2 - Poplars, Larches and Maples, we follow a syllabus broadly based on the new National Curriculum, carefully adapted to the needs of the children. We follow a skills based Literacy curriculum which concentrates on speaking and listening, writing skills and reading which incorporates both whole-word and phonic skills.

Numeracy is focused on the key areas of mathematics, which include number skills, shape space and measure, and problem solving using mathematical knowledge. We concentrate particularly on the things that the children are likely to need now and in later life, such as counting, use of money, telling the time and simple measures. All these skills are taught in as practical a way as possible.

In science our theme for term is; **Classifying Materials and their Properties**. We start by identifying broad categories of materials, such as wood, metal, plastic etc. and then think about what these materials are like; hard, soft, shiny, heavy, light and so on, then the uses that can be made of different materials.

Other areas of the curriculum are topic based and our topic for this term is; **Vikings and Anglo-Saxons**. The topic allows us to explore aspects of history, geography, music, Art, and Design and Technology, in an enjoyable and meaningful way for both us and the children.