

## Supporting your child's work at home - Autumn 2016

In Upper Key Stage 2 - Poplars, Larches, Maples and Cedars - we follow a syllabus broadly based on the new National Curriculum, carefully adapted to the needs of the children.

### Topic ideas for you - "Horrible Histories" (Vikings)

- 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 (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

### Science - We will be looking at 'Classifying Materials and their Properties'

- Look round your house and identify four things made of; wood, metal, plastic, leather, paper and 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?
- In science our theme for term is.
- 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.
- Watch related bbc class-clips
- Visit [www.topmarks.co.uk](http://www.topmarks.co.uk) (select 'Learning Games' and then "science")

### Literacy - We follow a skills based Literacy curriculum which concentrates on speaking and listening, writing skills and reading - incorporating both whole-word and phonic skills.

- Support your child with their weekly spellings, reading or other homework
- Hear your child read their home reader every week, preferably 3 times per week
- Enjoy sharing your child's library book with them and encourage them to recall key information
- Tell us about their weekend and holiday activities so we can talk or write about their 'News' in school
- Encourage your child to complete activities with clear steps which may be recalled (e.g. wrapping a present, getting ready for bed, making a sandwich, etc.)
- Visit [www.topmarks.co.uk](http://www.topmarks.co.uk) (select 'Learning Games' and then 'English')

### Numeracy - We focus on the following key areas of mathematics, which include number skills, shape space and measure, data handling and problem solving using mathematical knowledge.

- Practice recognising, counting, and ordering numbers regularly and explore number patterns such as counting in 2s, 5s and 10s
- Support your child with telling the time
- Provide real-life experiences of handling money
- Be 'shape detectives' around your home and the surrounding area
- Join 'The Great British Bake Off' and enable your child to experience measuring out ingredients for a real purpose
- Visit [www.topmarks.co.uk](http://www.topmarks.co.uk) (select 'Learning Games' and then 'Maths')