

Kingfishers Class Newsletter

Summer 1st 2026

Dear Parents/Carers of Kingfishers,

It is great to see everyone after the Easter break – Mrs Chapple and I hope you all had a wonderful time with friends and family. As we start our final term of Year 4, it is a great opportunity to look back at everything the children have achieved this year and how far they have come. We are all very proud of the children. We are really looking forward to this half term with lots of exciting learning ahead! Please make a note of Kingfishers' Rise and Shine Assembly at 9:00am on Wednesday 20th May where the children will be celebrating the end of their Vikings topic with you (this is the same day as our Sports Afternoon).



This Half-Term's Learning

Our topic this half-term is called 'Traders and Raiders'. We will focus on the history of the Vikings. To hook the children in, we will be making our very own Viking bread. Our topic outcome will be our Rise and Shine Assembly on Wednesday 20th May at 9:00am. Please see the Year 4 Topic Overview on the school website for more information about what Year 4 are learning this half term.

Dates for the diary for this half term:

- 24th April – PTA Break the Rules Day
- 27th April – Y4 Mighty Oak Competition (invited pupils only) at Anglia Ruskin University, Chelmsford
- 1st May – INSET day
- 18th – 22nd May - Sports Week
- 20th May 9:00am - Year 4 Class Assembly
- 20th May 12:00 Sports Afternoon/Family Picnic

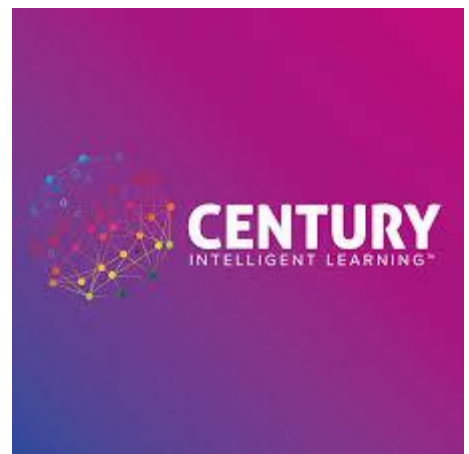
Home Learning:

I was so pleased with how well the children adapted and engaged with the new Home Learning platform, Century.

The children will continue to receive weekly Assignments on a Friday which should be completed by the following Friday. If there are any children who have not completed their home learning by Friday and there have been no messages from parents about this, children will be asked to stay in at lunchtime to complete their work.

Children should still ensure they are practising their weekly spellings on Spelling Shed, as well as their times tables.

Topic home learning will continue to be shared on Class Dojo. This is completely optional, but many children really enjoy these creative tasks. Please do send in any topic home learning they complete,



as we love celebrating and sharing their efforts in class. As part of these changes, we will no longer be sending home the red home learning books each week.



Reading:

- ❖ Children will be expected to read to/with an adult at home as often as possible. This is to be recorded in your diary which will be checked frequently. Please note that it is absolutely fine for your child to record their reading, however we ask that you then sign their diary over the weekend ready to be handed in on a Monday.
- ❖ Reading sessions will happen on a Thursday and Friday where children practise a number of reading skills.
- ❖ Children will have a 'levelled' reading book for when they are reading with an adult in school. Children will have access to other books in the classroom and library that they are welcome to take home to read.

General:

- ❖ Children do not need to bring in stationery, however, they may like to bring in a small pencil case of colouring pencils to keep in their tray. Some children also prefer to have their own glue stick and whiteboard pen. Please ensure that these are labelled so the children know what belongs to them.
- ❖ Our PE days are **Tuesdays and Fridays** please ensure children have the correct kit and footwear. (However, sometimes there are changes to the timetable so PE kits need to be in school all the time).
- ❖ No jewellery is to be worn for PE lessons
- ❖ Children may wear a watch and a pair of small silver/gold stud earrings for school – no bracelets
- ❖ No makeup (including tinted lip balm and nail varnish) is to be worn
- ❖ Hair is to be tied up (with an appropriate coloured and sized hairband) at all times during the school day.
- ❖ Your child should bring in a healthy snack to enjoy during break time. This may include: a piece of fruit or vegetable, plain crackers, hummus, unprocessed cheese or plain rice cakes. A copy of the school snack policy can be found on the school website.
- ❖ Your child will also need a named bottle filled with water every day. They will be able to access and refill their water bottle throughout the day.
- ❖ A reminder that the children will be dismissed from the back playground at the end of the school day. If you know that someone different will be collecting your child, please inform the school office who will get the message to us.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to write a note in your child's reading diary, send an email via the school office (office@downham-ceap.essex.sch.uk) or catch us at the end of the day once all the children have been collected.

Kind regards,

Mrs Crook & Mrs Chapple