

## Happy New Year from the Year 6 Team!

Welcome to the spring term. We hope that you all had a great Christmas and a well-deserved break. After an incredibly successful Autumn term, in which the children amazed us with their hard work and attitude, we are excited to resume our learning and hope that the children are ready to engage with a busy term full of fantastic learning. This term, the children will learn about the Ancient Greeks and the circulatory system, as well as many other excellent topics. As always, we will continue to support your child and are available if you need us.

Miss Strudwick & Mr Hunt

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### Groovy Greeks

To build excitement and interest at the end of the autumn term, we introduced the children to our spring term topic – the Ancient Greeks! As well as exploring some of Ancient Greece's best myths (Heracles, Theseus and the Minotaur, Perseus and Medusa), we will be looking at how the Greeks have influenced the Western world in relation to democracy. The children will also learn about some Ancient Greeks who continue to be important to us today. Finally, they will have the opportunity to taste, and then make, Greek breads and dips.

### Homework- set Monday and due Thursday

Guided reading homework is set weekly on a Monday and is due by Thursday. Please continue to encourage your child to complete their homework independently and speak to their teacher should they need support, prior to the Thursday deadline.

This term, we will be trialling a new maths homework approach, tailored to supporting children's arithmetic and reasoning knowledge. This homework will be online and will be set every Monday and due by Thursday. This will enable teachers to support children who have struggled with any part of the homework in class the following day. Children will be provided with log in details and shown how to access the website. We will complete an example homework in class so that children are confident with using the new website.

Expectations are that around 40 minutes are spent on each piece of homework, to allow children to complete their work to good standard. Please note that any reading is in addition to this time. We encourage the children to speak with us should they need support with any homework. Also, we encourage the children to be reading aloud to an adult at least 3 times a week to build fluency and comprehension or to be discussing their reading.

### Dates for your diary:

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February** – Weight and Height check

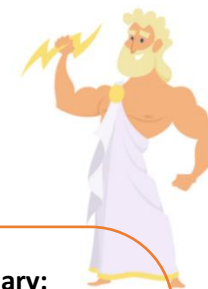
**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February** - Parents' Evenings

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February** – Inset days

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March** – Outdoor learning day (details to follow)

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March** – World Book Day

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March** – Last day of term



### Reading

We will continue reading sessions, developing the children's comprehension, vocabulary and ability to discuss the links they can make across texts. They will also read a range of different Ancient Greek myths. As always, any reading that the children can do at home will improve their fluency and understanding, as well as promoting a love of reading. A reminder that that graphic novels, non-fiction, poetry and audiobooks are all acceptable forms of reading.

### Computing

We will refresh the children's knowledge of online safety as their access to the online world grows, focusing on keeping personal information safe and knowing who they are talking to. The children will also have the chance to create their own Wikipage, with details of their chosen Greek myth.

### Life Skills

We will be discussing how the media has an impact on body image and well-being in this day and age as well as how advertising is used to promote products. We will continue to talk about relationships with others focusing on how they value each other and how to give and receive constructive feedback.

### P.E.

In dance, we will be using Theseus and the Minotaur as inspiration for the children to produce their own 'battle' dance. In games, the children will play hockey and develop strategy and team skills. Later in the term, the children will take part in circuit training and learn how important fitness is to everyday lifestyle and health.

### DT

As part of our topic, the children will investigate different breads and dips from Greece. They will use this knowledge to make their own Greek inspired bread and dip.

### English

Our topic is full of fascinating myths and legends which our English topic will be based around. The children will have a chance to write a Greek myth, featuring their own mythical beast! As well as this, we will write a diary entry about the Battle of Marathon and write a persuasive letter from an Athenian to a Spartan warrior. In Science, they will explain how the heart works as a major organ of the body.

### R.E.

In this term's enquiry, we will be comparing the theory of evolution and the Christian creation story, drawing upon prior learning of evolution and inheritance from the Autumn term. We will then work as a class to hold a debate on which theory children believe to be most accurate.

### Science

Throughout this term we will be looking at living things in more detail including the classification of organisms and will investigate mould. We will be finding out how the circulatory system works and (linking to our PE) discovering how and why exercise can improve fitness.

### Maths

To begin this term, we consolidate the children's knowledge of fractions, decimals and percentages, before moving on to shape work, including ratio and proportion, and moving into area and perimeter later this term. In the second half of Spring term, we will be focusing on statistics and co-ordinates. In addition, we will continue to develop mental arithmetic skills and the use of images to problem solve.

### Art

Using water colours and oil pastels, the children will practise colour mixing and developing the technique of using two different media. The children will produce a piece of artwork inspired by our scientific work on the circulatory system.

### Music

The children will learn about the musical stave and musical notation. Children will learn about the notes on the treble clef stave. This will lead to learning how to play a jazz tune on the glockenspiel.