

Happy New Year from the Year 6 Team!

We hope that you all had a great Christmas break, we are both very excited to be working with the children on our new topics - especially Miss Campling as she will get to see the amazing progress the children have made since Year 3. In the Autumn term the children developed a super attitude to their work which we are keen to build on. This term, our main themes are the Ancient Greeks and, in science, the circulatory system. As always, we are here to help if you have any concerns so please contact us through the email addresses below.

Mr Fowles & Miss Campling

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Groovy Greeks

Our exciting new topic is 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 for example in relation to democracy. The children will also learn about some Ancient Greeks who continue to be important to us today. They will also have the opportunity to taste, and then make, Greek breads and dips.

Homework- set Monday and due Thursday

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

Expectations are that around 40 minutes are spent on each piece of homework, to allow children to complete their work to a good standard. Please note that any reading is in addition to this time. Even in Year 6, we encourage the children to read aloud to an adult at least 3 times a week to build fluency or to discuss their reading.

Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 12th & Thursday 13th February - Parents' Evenings
Monday 24th and Tuesday 25th February
– Inset days
Wednesday 6th March – Outdoor learning day (details to follow)
Thursday 6th March – World Book Day
Friday 4th April – Last day of term

Reading

In reading sessions, we will develop 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. Just to remind you that that graphic novels, non-fiction and poetry are all fabulous forms of reading.

Computing

The children will have the chance to create their own Wikipage, all about their chosen Greek myth. We will then refresh the children's knowledge of online safety as their access to the online world grows, focusing on their own digital well-being.

Life Skills

We will explore what it means to be a global citizen, focusing on how our choices impact the world and how we can contribute positively to a sustainable and connected future. We will continue to talk about digital well-being and online relationships with others.

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

The focus this term is on food technology. We will use our Greek topic to explore the dips and breads of the region. This will include making, and more importantly, tasting our own!

English

Our writing will be inspired by the incredible myths and legends of Ancient Greece. The children will use the key elements to create their own mythical beast and write a heroic story! We will also write a diary entry about the Battle of Marathon and write a persuasive letter from an Athenian to a Spartan warrior.

Our science work about the circulatory system will be a super way to practise writing in a scientific style.

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 to compare the two.

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

We will consolidate the children's knowledge of fractions, decimals and percentages, before moving to shape where we will focus on proportion, area and perimeter. 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 how to use images and models to problem solve especially as these become more complex and challenging.

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.