

Year 5 Newsletter – Summer Term 1



Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you had a wonderful Easter break ready and are recharged for the term ahead. The following is an overview of what your child will be taught in the first half of the Summer term, as well as general timetabling information.

In **English**, we are exploring Greek mythology. Children will be exploring famous myths in depth, such as Theseus and the Minotaur, Orpheus and Eurydice, and Jason and the Golden Fleece. We will learn the key features of Greek myths and build up to writing our own myth! This will include action and dialogue, as well as descriptive settings and developing key characters.

We are continuing with accelerated reader, where the children will be bringing books home to read. We will continue to put a lot of focus on **reading**. We will have separate **Destination Reader** sessions, which will involve explicitly teaching reading strategies, such as clarifying, inferring, predicting, questioning, summarising and making connections with the wider world. Please try to encourage your child to read as much and as widely as possible and, wherever possible, please take the time to read with your child.

Our **Maths** focus this term is Decimals and then properties of shapes including angles. As the children progress through their learning, we will also be focusing on how to solve word problems, developing our ability to reason and explain using clear mathematical language. Children will also be practising mental maths strategies and arithmetic. **Children will be tested on their times tables on Mondays along with their spellings and should make use of Timestables Rockstars at home to practice.**

In **History** the children will explore the ancient tribes of Greece and who the ancient Greeks were. We will explore how democracy started and learn about different Governments of ancient Greece. Using historical resources, we will compare and contrast the two city states of Athens and Sparta.

In **Computing** we will be looking at creating media through vector drawings. We will look at layers and objects and how they can be manipulated using computers.

In **Science**, our topic will be about **Properties of Materials**. We will investigate why the uses of different materials depend upon their properties and state (liquid, solid, gas), how some material dissolve in a liquid and form a solution while others are insoluble and form sediment, and how mixtures can be separated by filtering, sieving and



evaporation. In addition, we will explore how some materials are reversible or irreversible.

In **Art**, our big question is, How much of our culture is shaped by other civilisations and significant people from the past? Pupils will be learning about the history of Greek vases, and how we use this art to learn about ancient civilisations from the past. We can see how artists today are still influenced by this art.

In **French** this term, we are learning about hobbies and interests. They will continue to develop their French vocabulary and grammar.

In **Music**, we will look at how music is used with film. We will look at sound effects, music soundtracks and the children will evaluate and refine their own musical compositions.

Our **Religious Education** focus will be Sikhism. We will be exploring what it means to be Sikh, and what Sikhs believe. We will learn about their practices and ways of life, as well as different teachings and beliefs. We will explore the Sikh place of worship and reflect on the unit by comparing Sikhism with Christianity.

P.E. will be on **Thursday** mornings. Please ensure your child comes to school in the correct kit on Thursdays. **Palm Class** are swimming this term every **Tuesday**.

Homework: your child will be expected to read for **15-20 minutes every night**. Learning the weekly spellings and times tables is mandatory, with a test every Thursday. Please refer to the term's Homework Planner.

If there is anything that you wish to talk to us about, we will be available every day at home time.

Best wishes,

Team Year 5 - Mr. Griffiths, Mrs. Ocen, Mr. Ahmed, Natalie, Rita

