

Dear Parents,

Welcome back from the Year 5 team! We hope that you and your family had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year. This letter is to keep you informed about some of the work that the children will be doing during the spring term.

Theme - Ancient Greece

This Term our topic is 'Ancient Greece'. Within this theme the children will be learning about where Greece is, why people should visit Greece and we will also be learning about the Greek Legacy. As historians, we will also be looking at the architecture of ancient Greece. Further to this, we will be using our research of Greek architecture to design and create Greek buildings in design and technology. There will also be the opportunity to visit the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery to explore ancient Greek artefacts. The children will also be invited to take part in workshops to extend their learning. We hope that the children are as excited about the theme as we are! Be sure to ask them about the topic as it progresses!



English

During this term, the children will continue to engage with a range of fantastic narrative and poetic texts. They will continue to develop their reading skills, by inferring and deducing answers to questions about what they have read in greater depth. In their narrative work, children will be focusing in particular on Greek myths and legends. They will interpret and complete work about the poem 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes. Their non-narrative pieces of work will include persuasive writing linked to our theme. The children will continue to write at greater length with increasing accuracy and appropriate detail across a variety of genres. Their understanding of grammar and punctuation will continue to develop as they build on their work from previous years.



Mathematics

During this term, the children will be focusing on reading tables and graphs, word problems and fractions. Our word problem unit is focused on strategies to approach a word problem as well as how to visually represent the maths involved to aid understanding of how to solve.



We will also look at reading tables, involving calculating time durations, during our graphs unit, but also how to read, interpret and draw line graphs. The rest of this half-term will then be spent looking in depth at fractions. This will include: improper fractions and mixed numbers, equivalent fractions and comparing and ordering fractions. We then move on to investigating calculating with fractions, where they will cover adding and subtracting fractions as well as multiplying fractions by whole numbers.

Science

This term in Year 5 Science, children will be covering the following units:



- Electricity

The children will be learning to associate the brightness of a lamp or the volume of a buzzer with the number and voltage of cells used in the circuit. They will also compare and give reasons for variations in how components function, including the brightness of bulbs, the loudness of buzzers and the on/off position of switched. By the end of the topic the children will be using recognised symbols when representing a simple circuit in a diagram.

- Human body

During this topic the children will learn to identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system, and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood.

Religious Education - RE

During this first term the children will be learning to understand different faiths. They will be looking at different places of worship in detail.



Personal, Social and Health Education - PSHE

Our Jigsaw themes this year are 'Goals and Dreams' and 'Healthy Me'

Children will be thinking about: Personal and Academic Goals and Targets; aspirations and dreams for the future; the importance of living a healthy and active lifestyle, and body image and personal health.



Physical Education - PE

In PE we will be focusing on Gymnastics. The other session will focus on games skills. These will take place on **Wednesdays** and **Thursdays**. To ensure that the children always have their kit for lessons, we suggest that they bring their appropriate kit to school on a Monday and take it home to be washed on a Friday. Can we remind you that children are required to wear a white t-shirt and dark coloured shorts, or a tracksuit. Tights are not suitable for PE so please ensure that children have an

extra pair of socks in their PE bag. Earrings must be taken out or covered and as in school, long hair must be tied back. Children must have a change of clothes for PE, they are not to wear their school uniform during PE. If the weather is cold, they will also need appropriate footwear, which must be different from the shoes that they wear for the remainder of the day. Please support this vital area of the curriculum by helping children to bring the correct changes of clothes to school for these sessions.

ICT -

The children will have their second ICT day of the year, where they will have an opportunity to further develop their coding skills.



Homework

Children are also expected to be **reading** to an adult at least 3 times a week, and independently change their books on a regular basis, varying between home reading books and school library books to encourage a wider range of texts being read, whilst promoting a love of reading. Please log any reading in the reading diary and encourage your child to note any independent reading they do too.



Children are tested on their spellings on a weekly basis and are expected to try their best consistently.

In maths, taking any opportunities to ensure that your child knows their times tables up to 12×12 fluently would support their learning. Children will also be tested weekly on their timetables knowledge in order to support their fluency within arithmetic.

We will provide a homework or children/parents who request one again for this term. The children will receive a reward for completing the pack **fully**.

Our POWer Project this term is 'Modern day Greece' for which children must complete 5 points worth of activities as a minimum, but they are more than welcome to do more as they explore our theme further. This is to be returned to school by Monday 1st April 2019.

Many thanks for your support,

Mrs Granger and Mrs Gangani

Year 5 Team