

Autumn 1

Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter



Firstly, we would like to welcome you and all the children to Year 5. We are looking forward to lots of exciting learning that we have planned for the year.

Topic/Science

Our topic this half term is "The Groovy Greeks". The children will be learning all about ancient Greek civilisation and how their daily life compares to the modern day. The Greeks will be the central theme to the learning this half term and will be covered across Writing, Reading and Art as well as Topic lessons. In Science, the children will be learning all about forces. This will include planning, conducting and evaluating their own investigation into the impact forces can have on a moving object.

Writing

We have started the new school year focusing our writing around the Greek myth; Pandora's Box. The children have been learning how to add detail and description to their writing by including similes, metaphors and personification. We will continue to focus on vocabulary choices and the impact these choices have on the reader. The children will be continuing the Greek theme and writing an information text based on the facts and information they learnt throughout this half term.

Reading

We have just begun reading 'Shadow of the Minotaur' by Alan Gibbons. The themes within the book link closely to the Greek myth, Theseus and the Minotaur and will therefore further support our topic work. We have begun by using vocabulary from the first chapter to make predictions about characters and plot. To develop the children's use of language and descriptive techniques we will be focusing closely on the use of figurative language throughout the book and the reasons why the author makes particular language choices. The book covers themes of bullying so will be linking closely to our work in PSHE.



Maths

We have started the new school year focusing on the children's understanding of place value, multiplication and division. We are developing the children's mental strategies as these will support the children in all areas of maths. We will also be focusing a lot on the children's understanding and knowledge of fractions, furthering developing their existing skills and encouraging the children to tackle trickier, more abstract problem solving tasks.

Art/DT

This half term the children will be exploring Greek art work. They will be researching the designs and patterns used in traditional Greek pottery. They will then create their own Greek pottery from clay and paint and decorate their pots with Greek designs. During DT lessons we will be focusing on food technology and the children will be designing and creating a simple Greek menu.

P.E.

This year, Mr Mortimer will be taking our PE lessons in Year 5. During this half term the children will be focusing on their fitness levels and developing some of their basic skills such as throwing and catching. It is also part of the Year 5 curriculum for the children to take part in swimming lessons. Each half term one year 5 class will attend lessons at Barncroft Primary School. This half term Raccoons class (Miss Church) will begin their swimming lessons.

ICT

We will be continuing to develop some of the children's IT skills during this half term. They will be creating and presenting a short presentation based on an area of Greek life of their choosing. We will work on formatting and editing their presentations so they are more engaging for their audience.

Homework

This half term your child will bring home a selection of spellings and times tables to learn. We would ask that you help your child with these if possible. The children will be tested on these during the following week at school. If you have any questions, please come and speak to a member of the Year 5 team.