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Dear Parents,

**Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter    Spring Term 1**

**Our class reading book this term will be - The Famous Five: Short Story Collection by Enid Blyton and a range of ancient myths**

**English – Fiction and Myths**

**Reading goals**

- To
- Understand the story's cultural and geographical context and use this help visualise the setting
  - Connect the story with personal experiences and previous reading
  - Explore the obstacles that the main character has to overcome
  - Explore story structure and the language the author uses to affect the reader

**Writing goals including Grammar-** Children will:

- Read and discuss Ancient Greek myths
- Plan and write their own myths taking account of the conventions of the genres
- Explore the features of explanation writing
- Plan and write an explanation text

**Grammar and Spelling goals**

- Modal verbs
- Cohesive devices
- Commas for clarity
- Adverbs to indicate possibility
- Apostrophes- contraction & Apostrophes- possession

Rehearse near homophones; rehearse spelling rules when modifying root words with suffixes; building words from root words; learn statutory words for yr. 5/6.

**Maths**

**Place value**

To interpret negative numbers in context, count forwards and backwards with positive and negative whole numbers, including through zero.

To read Roman numerals to 1000 (M) and recognise years written in Roman numerals.

**Addition and subtraction**

To add and subtract numbers mentally with increasingly large numbers.

To use rounding to check answers to calculations and determine, in the context of a problem, levels of accuracy.

To solve addition and subtraction multi-step problems in contexts, deciding which operations and methods to use and why.

**Multiplication and Division**

To know and use the vocabulary of prime numbers, prime factors and composite (non-prime) numbers.

To multiply and divide numbers mentally drawing upon known facts.

To recognise and use square numbers and cube numbers and the notation for squared (2) and cubed (3).

To solve problems involving multiplication and division including using their knowledge of factors and multiples, squares and cubes.

To solve problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division and a combination of these, including understanding the meaning of the equals sign.

To solve problems involving multiplication and division, including scaling by simple fractions and problems involving simple rates.

## Science

In Science we will investigate the following questions:

- Which materials are used in our school building, what for and why?
- Weighty problem: Which is the best carrier?
- Which is the best type of plate to use?
- Cool box conundrum: Can the same container keep cold things cold and hot things hot?
- Mystery material: What will happen if we add water to the material?
- Nappy Ending: What is the best nappy brand?

### RE

This unit explores a range of different ideas about God.

#### **This unit will ask:**

- Where is God? What do I think about God?  
What do atheists believe about God?
- What do Muslims believe about God?
- What do Hindus believe about God?
- What do Sikhs believe about God?
- What do Christians believe about God?
- How might people represent God?

### Computing

#### **We are Cryptographers**

This unit will enable the children to:

- be familiar with semaphore and Morse code
- understand the need for private information to be encrypted
- encrypt and decrypt messages in simple ciphers
- appreciate the need to use complex passwords and to keep them secure
- Have some understanding of how encryption works on the web.

### Art

In art, children will explore Greek Mythology Surrealism. Children will learn to:

- Observe experiment, analyse and record how, line, colour, shape size and form can be created, manipulated and used in different ways.
- Develop an awareness of Art and be able to give opinions and feelings.
- Record observations/ideas, organise a range of visual evidence and information using a sketchbook.
- Be able to review their own and others work and say what they could improve.
- Develop drawing and painting skills with a particular emphasis on shape tone, line and colour.

### Topic

**This half term our topic will be Ancient Greece. In this unit , children will:**

- Find out who the ancient Greeks were and locate their civilisation on a timeline.
- Explore and discuss the three main types of government in ancient Greece: monarchy, oligarchy and democracy.
- Compare and contrast the two city-states of Athens and Sparta.
- Use primary and secondary sources to find out about daily life in ancient Greece.
- Find out about gods, goddesses and religious beliefs in ancient Greece.
- Investigate the lives and teachings of the ancient Greek scholars and philosophers.
- Explore how the ancient Greeks have influenced modern life.
- Explore the world of Surrealism using their 2D and 3D skills to create their own Mythical Creature Mask.

### Important Information

**PE** –Tuesday and Friday are PE days. Please ensure your child has their full kit each week.

**Spanish** – Your child is learning Spanish in weekly Spanish lessons (every Tuesday).

#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

- Homework is given out on Tuesdays and is due in the following Monday. There will be a playtime detention each Tuesday if homework is not completed.
- Weekly spellings are handed out on Tuesdays and tested on the following Tuesday
- Does your child know their times tables? Rehearse them using their multiplication chart.
- Please listen to your child read daily to help improve their fluency and accuracy and ensure that they complete their Reading Journal (the green booklet).