

YEAR 5 NEWSLETTER AUTUMN TERM 1

ANCIENT GREECE

Dear Parents and carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the Year 5 class teacher: I'm Miss Dooley, and I'm really excited to be teaching the same year group again!

During English lessons, we will be reading the novel 'Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief' from which we will model our own writing. We will be planning, drafting and editing our own Greek narratives, where we will learn to use high-level vocabulary and build up our writing stamina. We will spend most of our time up-levelling our work, learning how to use a thesaurus to improve our choice of words, and practising to increase our writing independence. We'll then plan and write a non-chronological report on a Greek mythical being. Finally, in the last week, we will be exploring poetry, and will write our own poems (odes) around the theme of Ancient Greece.

In Maths, we will be securing our knowledge of place value, addition, and subtraction, which will include practising both written and mental methods. Our multiplication knowledge will come in handy here, so we will be using TTRS and Hit the Button regularly to keep our times tables up to scratch.

In RE, we will be introduced to Sikhism. Our key question this term is, "How far would a Sikh go for their religion?", which will involve examining the history of the religion, the key beliefs, and the ways in which Sikhs may choose to represent their faith through actions and clothing.

This half term, our history unit revolves around the 'Ancient Greeks', focusing on their achievements, inventions (such as democracy and the Olympic games), and influence on the western world. In Geography, we will be studying the location of countries of the world, including biomes and environmental regions.

In Science, we will be focusing on Properties and Changes of Materials, comparing and grouping together everyday materials based on their properties, including their hardness, solubility, transparency, conductivity, and response to magnets. We will conduct experiments to test different materials' properties, learning how to report and present our findings from Scientific enquiries, including explaining processes and giving reasons based on evidence.

PE will take place on Tuesdays, and Year 5 will be going swimming at Poplar Baths on Friday afternoons, so remember your swimming kit! This will begin next week, with our first swimming lesson on Monday morning.

Homework will be handed out on Thursdays and will be expected back on Tuesdays. This will include a comprehension, spelling list, and a maths sheet focusing on the maths unit we are studying each week. On top of this, it is expected that children will be using Hit the Button and Times Table Rockstars little and often! Weekly spelling tests will take place each Friday.

Finally, please don't hesitate to talk to me or Ms Kelly if you have any questions or queries. We look forward to this coming term!

Miss Dooley and Ms Kelly.