



Year 5 – Autumn Term 2

What will the children be learning?

As the days get shorter and the evenings darker, the second half of the autumn term will carry a theme of inclusion, hope and optimism in Year 5. This will come through in our new selection of Stormbreak activities in the afternoons and the PSHE discussions we hold. We'll also turn our attention to history, where we'll be exploring Ancient Greece and the impact it still has on our lives today. Topics will include gods and monsters, as well as the development of city states and democracy. This will feed into our end of term debate motion, which will consider whether being remembered for making a difference is more important than actually making a difference. Our PSHE work will also include the subject of valuing difference, which will give us an opportunity to explore what qualities we look for in friends and how to have kind conversations. Extending from this in RE, we'll explore interpretation and how people can read or understand situations differently.

Our work in Science will continue from the first half of the term as we further explore the properties of materials. This time we'll look at transparency, conductivity and reversible and irreversible changes. In Computing our topic will become online safety. In this we'll explore protecting ourselves online, ways to communicate online and how people can form judgements about us from our online presence. In French, we'll look at vocabulary to help us go shopping in France. In DT, we'll continue our work on bridges and structures, then move on to examine the mechanics of how pop-up books work, hopefully making some ourselves in time for Christmas. In Music we will continue to learn how to play the ukulele with Mr Johnson.

English

Our English work this term will tie in with our Ancient Greek work in History. We'll look in detail at some of the Greek gods and their personalities and write fragments of some new Greek myths to show what we discover. We'll also research some mythical creatures and write illustrated reports about them.

To support this we'll be reading Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan, a story set in the modern day, but featuring a plethora of Ancient Greek gods and other characters. Through this we'll continue to practice our grammar and punctuation on a daily basis.

Maths

In Maths this term, we will move on from addition and subtraction to work on multiplication skills. This will include understanding multiples and factors, as well as prime and composite numbers, squares and cubes and the formal method of column multiplication.

We'll then move on to fractions by comparing and ordering different amounts, converting to and from mixed numbers and improper fractions and adding and subtracting fractions. Above all with this we'll be sure to embed the answer to the question, what is a fraction and what are they for?

How to help at home

Our homework routine runs from Monday to Monday as usual. New homework booklets will go home in the first week of the term. The regular homework tasks are as follows:

Reading: Regular independent reading (four times a week for a house point, five times for two). It would be especially great if you could listen to our child read to you, or a sibling, and ask questions about the text to check their understanding. We have Reading Masters booklets that will help with this – just ask if you've mislaid the one given in Year 3.

Spelling: Regular practice either using the sheet in the homework booklet or Spelling Shed. Two house points for five or more sessions a week.

Maths: Weekly maths challenge in the maths homework booklet and regular practise on TT Rockstars to develop or secure tables knowledge. Two house points for engaging in both tasks.

Please photograph the homework booklets to show engagement and upload to Google classroom. The websites and passwords needed for all of this are in your Dojo message thread, sent in September. Please also don't forget our Sora eLibrary, which contains thousands of age-appropriate books. Information for accessing this is in the same password document in your Dojo message thread.

Other information

PE: Our PE days are Monday and Wednesday. On Mondays our topic this half term is dance, while on Wednesdays it will be dodgeball. It helps us hugely if on PE days ear rings aren't worn so we don't have to worry about taking them out, and long hair is tied back. These are both statutory safety requirements for school PE lessons.

Library: The school library is open every morning break time for children to change books as and when they need to. Children still learning to read also have access to our separate book band library and our allotted time there is on Wednesday mornings. Children on book bands are encouraged to change books weekly, keeping one in school for afternoon reading and one at home for home use.