



Mexico

Class Newsletter

Spring Term 2020

Welcome Back!

I hope you have had a wonderful Christmas and I wish you a very Happy New Year! Thank you very much for the lovely gifts you gave me, you are very kind. This term our topic is 'The Ancient Greeks', I am excited by the opportunities this topic enables - Gods, Goddesses, heroes, heroines, monsters! Hopefully your children will be as enthused as I am! 'Greek Day' is being held on Friday 10th January. It would be lovely if your child could dress up as an Ancient Greek for the day; it is amazing what you can do with a white sheet!

Here is a brief outline of the topics and themes we will be covering this term, along with some useful points to note. If you need any further information, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me.

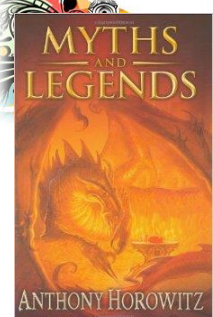


This topic will find your children becoming great archaeologists and historians, delving into this exciting civilisation. You can find out more about this topic in our class assembly on Thursday 2ndth April 2020.

Literacy

We will begin our term by looking at 'Myths and Legends', a topic that is bound to inspire even the most reluctant writer! We will use the great Greek Myths of Perseus and Medusa, Theseus and the Minotaur and others to inspire us to write our own Greek myths.

Guided Reading sessions this term will include time to enjoy reading different types of text. In addition we will enjoy focussed learning sessions that will help to build up

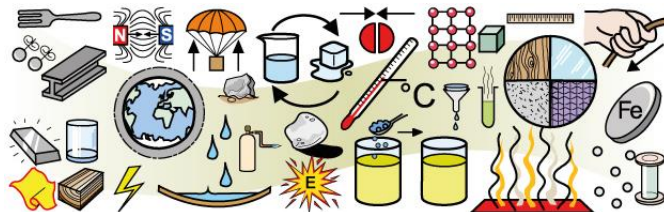




Maths

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We will begin the term by looking at area and perimeter then moving onto Division and Multiplication and Fractions, Decimals and Percentages. We will continue to focus very much on Mental Maths, embedding our knowledge of times tables and their respective division facts. Once these are known, we will focus on applying this mental maths knowledge to solving problems in real-life contexts. In school we are using 'Times Tables Rockstars' to help us with our times tables knowledge. All children should already have a username and login, if not please ask your child to obtain it.

Science

During the first half-term we will be continuing with our learning about the topic of 'Forces'. We will then move onto a new topic 'Materials'. The children will continue to develop their investigative skills through both these units. The main focus for development this term will be making informed conclusions based on the results they gather through scientific investigation.



Computing

The children will have a fantastic opportunity this term looking at 'Masters of The Digiverse', an e-safety unit taught through digital literacy. This will allow children to link their writing, directing and filming skills to creating a short film about internet safety.

R.E.



This half-term we will be considering the question, 'What would Jesus Do?' as we delve into the Gospels and accounts of Jesus from the New Testament. In the second half-term we be contemplating the question, 'What did Jesus do to save human beings?' looking at Salvation in more depth.

Spanish



Spanish will continue to be taught to the children once a week on a **Wednesday**.

Art/Music/Design Technology

This term all of our art, music and design technology teaching and learning will be included in general 'topic' sessions and will be inspired by the art, culture and music of the Ancient Greeks.

P.E.

The children will have two P.E. sessions a week. The indoor P.E. lessons this term will be on a **Monday**. I will be teaching Dance and the children will be learning a routine linked to our Greek Myths and the Minotaur. Our outdoor P.E. session will now be on a Wednesday morning with the P.E. instructors from Brighton and Hove Albion and we will be focusing on cricket. Despite being a summer sport this game lends itself well to the Year 5 key progression skills in P.E. and can also be played indoors should the weather not permit us to be outside. Please remember that the correct P.E kit should be in school at all times and that children need to have plimsolls and outdoor kit, which should be warm for this time of year. No jewellery is to be worn, please ensure that all earrings are removed on P.E days if the children are not able to remove them themselves.

PSCHE

The children will be starting the term with a unit titled, 'When things go wrong.' where we will look at what children can do in a variety of challenging situations, focusing on e-safety as well as peer pressure. After half-term we will look at a unit titled 'Dealing with Feelings' where the children will learn more about mental health and emotional well-being.

Spellings

This term children will be tested on common exception words and key words from the KS2 curriculum.

Once again the children will be given a Homework grid. The focus allows the children more choice in the tasks they complete. The expectation is still that one piece of homework will need to be completed every week and again this will need to be handed in on a Monday. There will also be some MyMaths homework to complete.

How can you help?

- 1) Please ensure that your child learns their weekly spellings and times tables.
- 2) As part of their weekly homework the children must read for at least 10 minutes, 3 times a week at home. The logs will be marked each week on a Friday.
- 3) Encourage your child with any work they want to do at home and always try and make it fun!
- 4) **Walking home** - we will require a **written request** from the parent/carer submitted to the School Office should you wish a child to walk home after school on their own. Without this we are not able to let your child leave school grounds unaccompanied. Please note that **the required age of a sibling collecting a child from school** is that they are **16 years old or above**. Please obtain permission from Mrs Copus should you wish to make alternative arrangements.
- 5) **Home with a friend** - Please ensure the Office staff are notified if your child is going home with a friend or another adult.
- 6) **Mobile phones** - Should you require your children to carry a mobile phone when in school they will be asked to submit it to the Office where it will be stored carefully and returned to the child at the end of the day. Please note that St Mary's will not be responsible for any loss or damage to the mobile phone.

Any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Miss Sleat ☺