



## Welcome back to Year 5

Dear Parents/Carers and children,

I hope you had a lovely Easter break and have had a well-deserved rest. I am really looking forward to the work we will be covering. Our main topic is titled 'Centaur, satyr and sphinxes'. Within this topic, the children will investigate both the ancient civilisations of the Greeks and the Egyptians. They will be finding out what life was like for the Ancient Greeks and Egyptians as well as their beliefs and traditions. In geography, the children will learn about the geographical features of Greece and consider how this has affected and moulded their lives. They will be increasing their map skills and comparing the Greece to the UK. Alongside our topic work, some of our reading and writing will be linked to these topics, to further increase the children's interest and learning.

### English

During English, Y5 will be learning to generate their own ideas plan, draft, revise, edit, publish and perform their writing in a variety of different genres. Sometimes the children's writing will be linked to our main topics in history or geography. We will continue with persuasive writing and move onto explanation texts and playscripts. We continue working on becoming a real community of writers and the children are given lots of opportunities to read the own and hear the work of others to help their own writing. When the children write, they are always encouraged to think about what the reader would find interesting. Editing their writing to reduce comma splicing and run on sentences will also be a focus. Parent will, once again, be invited in on some afternoons to hear the children read their writing and to hear about some of the books they have been enjoying in their reading for pleasure sessions.

In Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar, which will be taught daily, there will be a focus on different types of clauses and tenses. We will also be looking at specific word choices and more in- depth punctuation. There will also be weekly dictation practice and spelling tests. In order to embed the knowledge of some of the different word types, there will be an early morning sentence challenge during registration time. There will be a weekly oracy challenge set as homework in order to help the children prepare for their oracy discussions.





## Reading

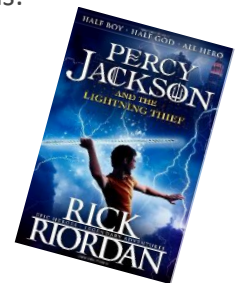
We have a weekly reading text, which we read on a daily basis. Our chosen texts are closely linked to our topic about war. We look at the type of genre it is and share our previous knowledge. We practice reading for meaning, focussing on following punctuation clues and practice reading aloud to develop the children's intonation and confidence. We look at and discuss any unknown words or phrases and at the end of each week, there is a comprehension task. Most reading sessions will include choral and echo reading as modelled by the class teacher. As it has proved so popular, we will be continuing our Friday reading session will juice and bickies. This session will also be extended, so that the children have an opportunity to talk about and share their opinions on the books they have been reading. They are encouraged to bring in books from home if they wish. The children are encouraged to read widely at home and to complete the online Trackmyread to log any home reading

## Books

We have a daily class book reading session, where I read out loud to the children. We will be reading .....

Percy Jackson and the lightning Thief, by Rick Jordan.

It is an epic adventure in which a teenager discovers he's the descendant of a Greek god and sets out on an adventure to settle an on-going battle between the gods.



## Maths

This term we will be focussing mainly on fractions and decimals. We will be adding, subtracting and multiplying these. Children will explore how to and what happens when decimals are multiplied and divided by 10, 100 and 1000, before exploring the link between fractions, decimals and percentages. With each topic there will be regular opportunities to practice relate reasoning and problem- solving skills. We will continue to work on times tables through regular practice of 'Rolling Number 'rhymes as well as weekly timed test



where children strive to beat their own 'personal best' scores. Alongside this, there will be frequent, oral practice of number bonds, boosting children's confidence and ability to recall numbers facts with speed and accuracy. The day begins as soon as the children come to school, during registration, with a maths challenge, which recaps previously taught key maths skills.



Please ensure your child in in school promptly at 8.30, or they miss out on this essential maths practice and key learning time.

## Science

Science will be taught regularly, once a week. The units we are covering in terms 5 and 6 are 'Earth and Space' and 'Animals including humans.'

During 'Earth and Space', they will learn about planets, asteroids, comets and explore the work of Nicolaus Copernicus. We will be conducting a range of investigations to test out our ideas. When we carry out experiments, children will learn to write them up using key scientific vocabulary learnt throughout the unit.

The unit about 'Animals, including humans' takes children through six lessons, where they learn how to: identify and name the [arts of the human circulatory system, and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood; recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function; and finally, they learn to describe the ways in which nutrients and water are transported within humans and animals.

## PE

PE this term will be on Mondays and Wednesdays. Please ensure your child has named school PE kit and black plimsolls or trainers as well as a black tracksuit (no large brand names or motifs, please), or leggings if it is colder. As usual, Coach Tom will be taking both sessions of PE with the children per week, focussing on athletics and the related skills. The children will also be focussing on striking and fielding skills, which can be applied to many areas of sport. During term 5 and 6, children will also be taking part in forest school.



## RE

In term 5 and 6, the children will be thinking about Islam and we will be looking at some Holy texts, watching video clips, exploring art and poems and visiting a mosque to explore the key question 'What is it like to be a Muslim in Britain today?' The children will also identify some ways in which Muslim people practise their beliefs in relation to the five pillars of Islam especially Sawm (fasting) and Hajj (pilgrimage) and analyse their importance within the Muslim faith. In addition, the children will also:



- Find out about and respond with their own ideas about these beliefs and practices.
- Describe and reflect on the significance of the Holy Qur'an to Muslim people.
- Describe the forms of guidance that Muslim people use and compare them to the forms of guidance that they follow.

The children will be encouraged to ask questions, think about how religion impacts identity and behaviour and to make links between the different faiths they have previously explored.

## Spanish

This term the children will be recapping and extending their Spanish. In terms 5 and 6 there will be a focus on language connected to clothes, fashion and ID cards. They will also be learning words and phrases related to the planets. The children's learning will be enriched by our Spanish scheme, which provides relevant themed activities, stories and video clips to enhance the children's learning.



## Music

Music for these terms will be based on our Kapow Programme. In term five, the focus is on the music of the Blues and in term 6, we will be Egyptian inspired music and also look at the history of these two genres. The children will look back and consolidate their learning of musical terminology and notation. Other specific skills, they continue to work on will be : to identify and move to the pulse





with ease; to think about the message of songs; to compare two songs in the same style, talking about what stands out musically in each of them, their similarities and differences; listen carefully and respectfully to other people's thoughts about the music; to talk about the musical dimensions working together in the unit songs; talk about the music and how it makes them feel and to hone their performance and composition skills.

### **Computing**

Our focus this term will be on creating their own videos and the skills and technical vocabulary related to this. They will also be introduced to programming and the use of crumble controllers. Some key skills they will learn are: To explain that a condition can only be true or false; to relate that a count-controlled loop contains a condition and to compare a count-controlled loop with a condition-controlled loop.

### **Art/DT**

In term 5 and 6, we will be looking at Greek art and design, particularly Greek Tondos. The children will be making their own with clay.



We will also be exploring the severe style of Ancient Greek art and the use of paint and pen.

### **Home Learning**

Home Learning will involve daily reading (recommended a minimum of 15 minutes) and the learning of weekly spellings. As in previous terms, weekly spelling tests will be on a Friday and the spellings for next week will be put on Dojo. From this term, there will also be an expectation that the children complete a weekly Oracy based activity and a maths activity. This will be given out on the Friday and due back in by the following Wednesday at the latest.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss anything at all, please message me on Dojo.

*Mrs Douglass*