

Curriculum newsletter for SS, RH and SRJ
Autumn 1 2014
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Our topic this half term is Gods and Mortals

Welcome from the staff in KS2!

We are starting our learning with a topic called **Gods and Mortals** where the children will be learning about Greek Myths and Legends and life for people in Ancient Greece. We have included a variety of ideas in the home learning projects which are a real opportunity for the children to complete different pieces, develop many different skills and to work with you and have fun! The standard of work the children produce is always very high and we are really looking forward to seeing what comes in this time!



Numeracy

As you may be aware we have moved the children into numeracy groups this year, with support being offered to those who need it and the opportunity being given to stretch those who are ready. If you have any queries about this please do not hesitate to see us.

This term in numeracy we will be working on the four rules of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. For example we will be using the column method of addition and subtraction. As well as this we will be working on multiplication tables with the children. You can help at home by working on these with your child. We discuss the family of multiplication and division.

e.g. $2 \times 3 = 6$ $3 \times 2 = 6$ $6 \div 2 = 3$ $6 \div 3 = 2$

So please work on all four ways of writing each calculation out. Further to this, we will be working on 2D and 3D shapes, knowing the names and properties of both. We will be looking at collecting and interrogating data using graphs and tables.

Special sessions! SS, SRJ and RH are also lucky enough to be having some special teaching sessions. This half term Class RH will be learning French with Madame Bond from Catshill Middle School and all of the children will be learning football and basketball skills with a specialist PE coach.

Unlocking the learning at home... There are many ways in which you can help your child at home. For example you can get involved with their homework heroes, hear them read regularly and help them learn their times tables. Remember, your child needs to complete at least one of the homework ideas.

Literacy

Our main focus with writing in KS2 is writing for an audience and choosing vocabulary carefully for effect.

Zeus, King of the Gods, and Greek Myths feature heavily in our writing where the children will be analysing the features of the Theseus and the Minotaur myth. They will then be writing their own myth involving a special mythical creature. They will be writing from the point of view of a character in the format of a diary entry. The Pandora's Box story will be the stimulus for a wow finish to our writing. The children will be immersed in a range of other Greek myths during story time, at the end of the school day.

Topic

During topic this term we are going to be exploring the Ancient Greeks. The children will be learning about everyday life in Ancient Greece and how it was different to our life now. They will be exploring Greek myths and the pantheon of Gods the Ancient Greeks believed in.

We will be learning how to use maps and atlases to plot journeys and learn about the geography of Greece. Some of the art and design opportunities include making a Greek warrior's shield, learning sketching techniques and a mystery Greek design project. The children will also be rehearsing and performing a dance routine based upon a Greek myth.

Dates for your diary

There are plenty of events planned to help the children with their learning. We would like to invite you into school to see the wonderful learning the children have been engaging with. To finish our topic, we will be holding an 'Appointing Ceremony'. This will be on Friday 24th October 9 am. We look forward to seeing you then for a fabulous experience! We are also planning an Olympics session on Thursday, 2nd October so your child will need to ensure their PE kit is in school.