

YEAR 4, TERM 3: ANCIENT GREECE

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you all had a marvellous Christmas and wish you a happy New Year. We'd also like to thank you for the generous gifts given to us for Christmas; they were very thoughtful indeed. Our topic for the next term will be looking at ancient Greece; briefly beginning with the modern country in order to continue our geographical focus on climate, biomes and lines of latitude and longitude.

This term, we will be using Greek myths to inspire us in English. The myth of King Midas will be used as a basis to perform and write play-scripts before we begin to innovate our own inverted takes on myths.

In topic sessions, history will be our main driver, we will be finding out about Ancient Greek life and achievements, and their influence on the western world. This will include: what everyday life was like; the cities of Sparta and Athens; the Olympics and how democracy was born and the legacy it left for the world.

In maths, we will spend some time looking at measures, including area and perimeter. Shape and statistics will also be taken another look at in addition to continuing to hone our mental calculation strategies.

Useful Dates:

House Day – 7/2/20

Week commencing 10th February: STEM week

End of term – 14/2/20

PE: PE will now take place on **Tuesday afternoons** and **Thursday mornings** for this term as we are lucky enough to be welcoming Bath Rugby in to lead our Tuesday sessions. Please check your child has shorts and a T – shirt as well as some joggers and jumpers as we go through the winter months. Please do also help them to ensure they always have the appropriate kit in school. Please also ensure that your child arrives in school in their PE kits on a Thursday morning.

Spelling tests: As previously, children should continue to bring their spelling booklets to school each week on Wednesdays. Key words from our scheme and weekly assignments based on in-class learning will continue to be available on Spelling Shed. Practising spellings is a vital part of our home learning expectation so we are grateful for your support with this. We will also have regular independent reading sessions so the children need to bring in their reading books daily. In addition, reading at home- both aloud and to themselves- is an excellent way of increasing vocabulary and comprehension. Please encourage your child to have a book that interests/inspires them. If your child is struggling to find a book they enjoy, we are more than happy to give recommendations and advice!

Times Tables: Age-related expectations for children at the end of Year 4 are that they will know all times tables and associated division facts up to 12 x 12. We will continue to work on the different times tables during class time but the support you offer at home is incredibly beneficial. Please be aware that Times-tables practice, like spelling, is part of the home learning expectation for our year group and across the school.

As always, we would love to have additional helpers. If you have any spare time please get in touch with your child's class teacher, particularly if you can help hear the children read. Of course, please do not hesitate to also contact us if you have any queries.

David Hardwick and Chris Westwood