

YEAR 4, TERM 3: A GREEK ODYSSEY

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 two terms will be looking at ancient and modern Greece; beginning with the modern in order to develop our geographical focus on climate, biomes and map skills.

Our main topic themes for Term 3 will include:-

- Investigating lifestyle, climate and landscape in modern Greece and comparing weather patterns with those of the UK. This will then link with English as we hopefully design and promote our own Greek island.
- Looking at reasons why people choose Greece as a popular holiday destination.
- Dancing to Greek music, looking at traditional dance sequences.
- Investigating Greek key patterns and creating a single-colour block print.
- Designing, making and evaluating our own 'Pandora's Box'.

Our focus in RE will be Buddhism, where we explore the origins of the religion and carefully consider the teachings of Buddha in the context of change and happiness in the whole world.

PE:

During the winter months, we recommend that your child wears a full PE kit to school, including a sweatshirt, jogging trousers and trainers as they will be wearing it all day. Our PE days remain as Wednesday and Friday.

English and Maths

Our main literacy themes for this term are persuasive writing and journalistic writing. Within this, we will be promoting Greece as a holiday destination by looking at the use of persuasive language and considering how this fits with the learning done so far. We will also be looking at the news reports in the context of climate change and plastic in the ocean.

Spelling rules will continue to be taught each week, as well as regular handwriting sessions.

In maths, we will be having an extended focus on learning about multiplication and the distributive law, before then shifting our focus to shape. Throughout this, we will be continually delving into the learning of our times-tables.

Multiplication Tables

We are now asking the children to apply their times tables in many areas of maths. It is therefore increasingly important to practise tables at home on a regular basis using TT Rockstars, with this being a home-learning expectation alongside reading and spelling.

Spellings

As previously, new Challenge Words will continue to be set on Mondays and the spellings that adhere to the spelling rule focus of the week will follow on the Tuesday. These will be set on Spelling Shed so please do ensure plenty of practice, though using the words in sentences (both written and verbal) is also hugely beneficial for learning the meaning and use of the words.

If you have any questions or concerns then please do get in touch.

Mr Hardwick, Miss Smith and Mr Westwood