

# Year 5 Newsletter Autumn Term 1 2023

## 'Ancient Greece' Themed Half Term

### Year 4

**Y5 Staff:** Miss Hegedüs  
Miss Mihidgi, Mrs Warrilow

Welcome back! We can't wait to welcome you all into Year 5! We hope you had a restful and happy summer holiday and are just as excited as us to be starting a new school year.

*If you have any queries or concerns about your child's progress or well-being, please do not hesitate to make an after-school appointment to speak to me.*



### Important Days

#### Thursday

AM: Swimming at Wetherby Leisure Centre. Ukulele music lessons.  
PM: Golden Book Assembly - parents/carers invited.

#### Friday

Homework due and reading diaries should be signed by parents. Spelling tests will take place on Fridays. Children should bring their reading diaries and school books into school every day.

PE is on a Friday. Please also ensure that children only bring book bags and their PE kits in draw string bags into school.

**Please label all uniform.**

### RE

In Our topic in RE this half term is Gifts from God. We will reflect on the story of creation and its meaning for us. We will also think about our own actions and how these show that we have a role to play in caring for the things around us and how this can show we are serving God. We will then move on to thinking about how our beliefs and values about creation can affect how people behave. We are also going to be studying examples that show how all of our actions have consequences, and will research individuals, such as St Francis, who inspired us to respect creation and look after those in our society who are vulnerable.



### English

This half term, our class text that we will be reading is **Who Let the Gods Out?** by Maz Evans which links to our topic of Ancient Greece. Year 5 will revise word classes, the use of apostrophes, fronted adverbials and will also continue to develop their handwriting style. We will adopt the author's narrative style to continue the story and we will also write a diary entry in role as Elliot, the main character from the story. We will revise our key core objectives through BEE zone practice to keep our writing skills bubbling! **Please encourage your child to read their school reading book at least 5 times a week as well as a lengthy novel at home as this will improve their reading stamina and enjoyment for reading.**



### Mathematics

In Mathematics, we expand our understanding of place value which involves reading, writing, ordering and comparing numbers to 1,000,000 as well as rounding numbers up to 1,000,000 within the nearest 100,000. We will also investigate negative numbers and will use powers of 10s to count forwards and backwards. We will incorporate reasoning and problem solving throughout to ensure that we have a concrete understanding of the concepts that underpin the whole of the subject. We will then move on to using column methods for addition and subtraction of numbers with up to 4 digits - this will also include lots of mental maths! Again, involving lots of reasoning and problem solving. **To support your child at home, please ensure your child continues to practise their times tables up to 12x12 (including division facts). This is crucial in all concepts in maths so the more confident your child is, the more it will help them in their learning in school.**



### Science

Our first Science topic in Year 5 will be 'Earth & Space' where together, we will study our solar system, planets and space. This is a very popular topic in Year 5 and can quickly become one of the children's favourite! We will begin by exploring the planets in our solar system and thinking of ways to remember the order of the planets using mnemonics. We will explore the size and movement of the Earth and Moon and will understand how these move in relation to the Sun. During this unit, there will be an exciting investigation into the sun and shadows to help us understand that the Earth rotates.



### Art

This half term in Art, Year 5 will learn about the modern artists Robin Moline and Peter Thorpe. They will explore shading through the use of a range of pencils and chalk. The children will learn how to create a 3D effect through shadow, reflection and definition in their shading. This will link to our Science topic where we will study the spherical shapes of the planets in our solar system. Year 5 will then apply their skills to create a piece of artwork in a modern and colourful style, following on from drawing a 3D sphere.



### Computing

In Computing this half term, we will continue to focus on online safety themed lessons. We will also learn about how we can create websites and the children will be coding and creating their own webpages on our Code4Kids platform where they can safely access and upload their work. We will link these websites to our Science and Topic learning where the children will showcase their knowledge and understanding of the solar system as well as facts about the country of Greece.



### MFL

In MFL, we will develop our listening skills through listening to spoken language in French and show understanding by joining in and responding. The children will then write phrases from memory and adapt these to create new sentences. We will focus on revising the basics: such as numbers, greetings, colours in spoken conversations.



### Music

At the start of the term, Year 5 will be introduced to the ukulele. They will learn about the origins of this musical instrument and what it was used for. They will learn about the parts of the ukulele and the ways to use their chording and strumming hands as they play. The children will have their music lessons every Thursday morning where they will develop their skills by playing their first chords, strums, and songs.



### PE

In PE, Year 5 will start their weekly swimming lessons down at Wetherby Leisure Centre. They will build their confidence in the water, develop their use of breathing when swimming and build up to swimming 25m confidently using a range of strokes. In PE lessons, Year 5 will develop their agility, speed, tactics, technique, power, observation and communication skills and will improve on their decision making in game situations.



### PSHE

This half term in PSHE, we will focus on mental health and emotional wellbeing. We are going to spend time reflecting on our class rules and targets to get back into the flow of school life quickly and efficiently. As a class, we will reflect on how a growth mindset can help us embrace learning challenges and how we can build our resilience and keep a positive attitude from the start. We will also continue developing our understanding of the British Values and we will focus on 'Democracy'.



### Topic: 'Ancient Greece'

Our first topic that we will explore in Year 5 is Ancient Greece! In our history learning, we will begin to explore where the Ancient Greek civilization existed and order key events on a timeline. We will learn about Athenian and Spartan children and the different lifestyles and experiences they had due to the city-state they lived in. Year 5 will then further develop their geographical awareness and will name and locate the countries and cities of Europe.



### Homework

In response to parent feedback, some homework will be paper based rather than online:

- Mathletics / Times Tables Rock Stars / Spelling Shed / Reading Eggs
- Reading 5 times per week for 15-20 minutes minimum but longer is preferable to build reading stamina. Children should use their reading jotters to record reading challenges completed.
- Research projects available on the Y5 website.

Our School Homework policy is available on the school website.

### Ways to Help Your Child

At St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, we believe that strong school-parent links are an essential part of ensuring our pupils achieve their potential. We really appreciate the support you give your children at home in order to help them with their learning.

Your child must **read their school reading book 5x a week for at least 15-20 minutes** at a time. Please ensure that your child is **reading aloud** as well as other times **independently** as this helps their understanding and comprehension of what they are reading. It is also beneficial for your child to **hear an adult reading aloud to them**. This is proven to support children with reading fluency and enjoyment for reading too.

The children's mathematics KIRF target this half term is to continue to work on their quick recall of all **multiplication tables up to 12x12 with their corresponding division facts**. These facts are important to continuously support them in other areas of their maths learning so please ensure to practise these regularly.

**As your child is now in Year 5, an increased independence is encouraged in school so we ask that your child begins to complete their homework diary with some independence each week before being signed by a parent/carer.**