



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Year 5! We are looking forward to having a great year and are excited to start our first theme, 'It's All Greek to Me!' The children will be learning all about the Ancient Greeks, including their home life, the lives of children, gods and goddesses, architecture and the Olympics. We will be linking as much of our learning to our theme as possible. For example, we will be writing Greek myths in

English and making Greek inspired batik in art. To celebrate all of the wonderful learning that the children will be doing, we will have a special Greek themed day before Christmas, where the children will get to wear Greek togas (which they will have made in Design and Technology) and try some Greek food!

Please make sure that your child has a full PE kit for September. As it will be getting cold soon, they will need jogging bottoms and a sweatshirt to wear to keep them warm, as well as trainers and a T-shirt for outdoor PE. They will need shorts and a T-shirt for indoor PE. Please check that all of your child's PE kit is clearly named and in school at all times in case of any timetabling changes or special events. Similarly, please ensure that all of their school uniform is labelled so that it doesn't go missing when they get changed.

This year, we are encouraging the children to read from many different genres, linking to the Year 5 reading curriculum, as this is a key objective. There will be 12 genres for them to read their way through and certificates will be given to those children who read a different book in each genre. There may even be prizes available if anyone reads 3 books in every genre! The genres will be: Science-Fiction, Fantasy Stories, Adventure Stories, Poetry, Play scripts, Non-Fiction/Reference Books, Books from Other Cultures and Traditions, Realistic Fiction, History, Humour, Classics and Biographies/Autobiographies. Please support your child with this and sign in their Reading Record when you know that they have completed a book so that we can keep a track of what they have read. We will be putting a record card in the back of their Reading Record for this, which we will complete in school. They will therefore need to take care of their Reading Record as it will be their evidence of how well they are doing.

Homework will still be set on a Thursday and due in on a Tuesday. It will follow a similar format to Year 4 to keep it consistent for the children. It should be completed in their Home Learning Journal and will be based on something they have been learning that week in English, Maths or Theme. By Year 5, the children should be able to complete their homework independently, but may require your help or guidance at times to check or reassure them. Remind the children to come and ask us if there is anything that they are unsure of, but this should be before the day when it is due in. Please also encourage them to continue with their spellings, reading and times tables, building on the progress they made last year. Spellings homework will be set on a Monday and will be due in on a Friday. The new spelling rule or pattern will be introduced in the lesson on Monday and then they will be given some words and a strategy with which to practise by. This will build up their knowledge of different spelling strategies over the year and what works best for them, supporting them going into Year 6 next year. The given words each week will be tested on a Friday.

Finally, we will be going to Pitsford at the beginning of October to cycle and sail! It will be a lovely day out for the children (let's just hope the weather is lovely too!). A letter with more information about this will follow shortly, although it will be helpful if the children practise/learn to cycle over the holidays in preparation.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to come and see us.

Mrs Sinclair, Mr Usher and Miss Hall

Areas of Learning for 'It's All Greek to Me'

Science

As scientists, we will be revising the three states of matter and properties of materials and investigating further properties such as solubility and thermal conductivity. We will separate materials using a range of methods and understand that some changes are irreversible.

Geography

As geographers, we will be locating Greece on a world map and looking closely at its land and topographical features.

D&T and Art

In D&T, we will be designing and making our own Greek togas using our fabric and textile skills. We will wear these for our end of topic celebratory Greek feast!

In Art, we will be learning about batik and producing Ancient Greek inspired batik works of our own.

PE

In Outdoor PE we will be playing Invasion Games. Please have PE kits in school every day in case of any timetable changes. In Indoor PE, we will be working through the Real PE programme to improve our balance, agility and movement skills.

Computing

In Computing, we will become web developers and create our own website about cyber safety. Later, we will apply our English skills to become bloggers, creating our own blogs on a particular theme and commenting respectfully on the posts of others.

Life Skills (Citizenship and PSHE)

In PSHE, we will be looking at new beginnings. Within this, we will create a class charter, exploring feelings, looking at belonging and creating a community within the school. As well as this, we will be exploring healthy food and making sensible food choices.

Music

As musicians, we will be looking at African djembe drums and the techniques for playing them and creating different sounds. As a class, we will look in depth at some African cyclic patterns and will be recreating these and devising our own on our drums.

Reliaious Education

In RE, we will be looking at Hinduism and what Hindus believe. We will be taking part in the Northampton Diwali procession on Saturday 29th October to celebrate our learning and the Hindu faith. More information about this will follow.