

Parkstone Primary School

Learning together



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Headteacher – Mrs Sarah Waller

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new term. Firstly, thank you for supporting us with the move to sandshoes for indoors, it really will help to keep the indoor school environment clean and tidy.

This half term our topic is:
The Ancient Greeks



The pupils will locate Greece within Europe and the World using atlases and maps and will consider the reasons why people live in the places they do. They will then study the history of Ancient Greece – important events and people and consider what life would have been like for a child alive at that time. On the back of this letter you will find the objectives that the pupils will be covering over the term for all subjects and some of the activities that they will be engaged in.

A few reminders:

Homework: your child will now receive weekly homework and spellings to learn as well as a termly home-school challenge. In addition they will be expected to read three times a week, learn their spellings and continue practising their addition and multiplication facts. They are rewarded with Golden time every Friday if they read three times per week. Please sign their reading record as evidence of the reading taking place.

P.E.: Indoor PE for all three classes will still be on a Wednesday and outdoor P.E. will be on a Tuesday for Mrs Damary-Thompson and Mrs Derrick/Mrs Wigglesworth's classes and on a Thursday for Mrs Woollin's class. Please ensure that your child has the appropriate PE kit for those days to enable them to participate fully in these valuable lessons. (Outdoor – jogging/tracksuit bottoms, fleece/hoodie, white T-shirt **and trainers**; Indoor – white T-shirt and black/navy shorts). Earrings should be removed or taped over (please send this in) for P.E. for safety reasons.

We have had a great day today with Else who came to introduce the children to the food of Greece. She involved the children in the preparation of a number of dishes and they then sampled them! Please ask them about it as we are sure they will love to tell you about it.

We look forward to a successful spring term and if there is anything you would like to ask, don't hesitate to make an appointment to see us.

Your sincerely,

Mrs Woollin, Mrs Damary-Thompson, Mrs Derrick, Mrs Wigglesworth, Mr Rogers and Mrs Holtby



Literacy

Year 3:

We will be reading lots of different Greek Myths and identifying their different plots and also common themes and features. We will look at how some stories have messages for the reader and what these can be. We will be continuing to develop our dictionary skills.

Year 3 Writing:

Greek Myths will be the stimulus for our writing in Year 3. We will create our own characters and mythical creatures and write our own story using them. We will look at how different conjunctions can be used to create complex sentences and make careful vocabulary choices in our writing.

Year 4 Reading:

'The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe' will continue to be our book for reading and writing until February half-term. We will continue to use dictionaries to clarify the meaning of new words and further develop our ability to answer inferential questions where we need to think more deeply about characters' feelings and actions.

Year 4 Writing:

In writing we will be making careful choices about the vocabulary we choose and focusing on using a range of sentence openers to make our writing interesting for the reader. We will also be having a focus on editing, proof-reading and improving our writing so that our writing can be as good as possible.

Science:

As Scientists we will be learning all about forces and magnets. We will investigate how magnets attract and repel some materials and not others and compare and group objects according to whether they are magnetic. We will also investigate how things move on different surfaces.

In Year 3 and 4

Our topic for the Spring Term 1 is The Ancient Greeks



History and Geography

As our theme is 'The Ancient Greeks' we will be using atlases and maps to locate Greece and countries near to it in Europe and the world. We will find capital cities and discuss why people choose to live in one place rather than another. We will then research what life was like for children in Ancient Greece and place key events on an Ancient Greece timeline.

R.E.

In R.E. we will be learning about leaders within our school and the wider community before we move onto faith founders. We will look at Buddhism and learn about the beliefs and values and how they influence how Buddhists live their lives.

Important dates:

Thursday January 18th: Taste of History day

Monday 22nd January: Sponsored circuit training with Beth Dobbin (Olympic Athlete).

Tuesday January 30th: Safer Internet for Parents 2:30pm

Wednesday January 31st: KS2 Stay and Read 9am.

Wednesday February 7th: KS2 Stay and Count 9am.

Friday 9th February: Break up for half term.

Maths

Year 3:

In Maths we are continuing to learn our 3, 4 and 8 times tables and we will be learning how to multiply a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number. We will also be adding and subtracting money in practical contexts and starting to look at information in bar charts, pictograms and tables.

Year 4:

In Maths we are having a blitz on learning all of our multiplication facts to 12 x 12 and learning how to multiply 3-digit numbers by a 1-digit number. We will be applying our knowledge of multiplication to calculating the area of shapes. We will



Computing:

In computing we will be developing our typing and word processing skills. We will start learning how to touch type and then produce our own information leaflet about Greece.

Art, Design and Technology

We will look at the work of a range of other artists and talk about how it makes us feel, and then learn how to mix colours, stains and tints and add them to our paintings. We will also be designing and making a magnetic game and a moving Trojan Horse!

P.E.

In outdoor P.E. we will be continuing to develop our teamwork skills and focusing on hockey. In indoor P.E. we will be learning some funky dance moves with Coach Craig.