



Class 5

The class have really hit the ground running in year 5, taking new concepts in their stride. I'm sure they will do the same in this very busy half term. We have lots to look forward to! A reminder that if you ever need to contact me, my email is liam.kershaw@netherthongprimary.co.uk.

Topic (geography and history) – All Greek to Me

One of our topics this half term is to look at all things Greek! That includes modern Greece and what it is like today. This is where we will start our topic. As part of this, we will plan a 'race across Europe' using maps to plot our hypothetical route. We will also be comparing the island of Ithaca to the Holme Valley. In the second half of the topic, we will be looking at Ancient Greece. We will look at the birth of democracy, as well as learning about different Greek gods and the differences between Athens and Sparta.

Maths

In maths, the children will be introduced to the concept of prime numbers. We will also learn more about line graphs and reading complicated tables. As well as consolidating our understanding of adding and subtracting fractions, we will extend ourselves by also looking at multiplying by fractions. Towards the end of the half term, we will also learn about converting into imperial units of measurement.

English

In English, the adventures of Odysseus will inspire our writing this half term. We will be writing letters in character, creating newspaper reports and recreating the story of Odysseus and the Cyclops in our very own narrative.

Spellings will continue to go out every Friday, but they will be tested on **the same words two weeks in a row**. This is to ensure the words are solid in their minds as well as giving the children the opportunity to improve on their score from the previous week.

Topic – May the Force Be with You

Our other topic this half term will be science-based. Using the topic of forces, we will discover the history of gravity research before investigating air resistance, friction and water resistance. Then, we will learn more about forces through pulleys and levers and use this knowledge to complete a DT project which requires the children to create a toy using pulleys and/or levers.

PHSE and RE

In RE, Mrs Lindley will be continuing to look at why some places and journeys are deemed religiously important and use this to create art.

In PSHE we will look at how to manage our feelings and emotions before going on to look at diversity and discrimination.

PE

PE this half term is on a Friday afternoon. We will be looking at cricket and improving our skills across the various roles.

Computing

This half term, we will be looking at databases and the importance of them. The children will then create their own database on a topic of their choice.

Important Dates this half term:

- 12th November – Movie Night
- 21st November – Family Sharing
- 29th November – INSET Day
- 6th December – Winter fayre
- 17th December - Year 5/6 Christmas Performance
- 20th December – INSET Day

Reading in Year 5



It is really important that children continue to read broadly and widely as they get older. The benefits include improved vocabulary, more creative writing, a wider understanding of the world and developing their own writer's craft.

I have listed below a few books which I recommend for children in Year 5:

- The Boy at the Back of the Class by Onjali Rauf
- The Storm Keeper's Island by Catherine Doyle
- Artemis Fowl by Eoin Colfer
- Northern Lights by Phillip Pullman
- Danny the Champion of the World by Roald Dahl
- The Demon Headmaster by Gillian Cross

Important vocabulary this half term

Based on our topics, I have included a list of important vocabulary that children should become accustomed to this half term. That includes knowing the meaning and spelling of these words. Ask your child about these words as the term progresses.

Democracy Six-figure grid references Force Friction Water resistance Air resistance Gravity Spartan Athenian

Thank you, as always, for your support.

Mr. Kershaw