



Welcome to 5/6M!

5/6M Autumn Topics

I would like to wish all of the children a very warm welcome back after the summer holidays. Everybody has settled well into their new routines and already shown great attitudes to their learning. I am really enjoying getting to know the children and I look forward to meeting you all in the coming weeks. We've a busy term ahead but the following will tell you a little more about what we have planned:

English: We've already produced some excellent writing on our first book, *Footpath Flowers* by JonArno Lawson and Sydney Smith. It's a wordless picture book that makes an enchanting start to our English work this term, helping us to wake up our English brains after the long summer break. We'll also be writing biographies about Greek thinkers, moving on after half term to reading and writing Greek myths. Non-fiction texts will also be part of our learning. We will be linking here to Science and our work on materials to write a report on the pollution of the seas by plastic. In addition to their daily English lessons, the children will be working as Reading Detectives

in guided reading, looking for the clues that can help us with comprehension and grammar. Spellings will be practised in a weekly spelling workshop.

Reading: I'm pleased to see such avid readers in Class 5/6M as we are going to E.A.T books this term! We'll be reading EVERY day, ALL types of books and we'll also be TALKING about them — a lot. Reading to your child at home on a daily basis will really help them to develop this crucial aspect of their learning.

Maths: We will be following Year 5 and 6 objectives, developing our fluency, reasoning and problem-solving. We have started with place value work and will move on to addition and subtraction in the coming weeks. Maths lessons are daily with a separate arithmetic lesson on a Thursday afternoon. There will be booster group sessions for year 6.

Science: We will be investigating everyday materials and reversible and irreversible changes. We're looking forward to some exciting experiments and lots of blue-sky thinking!

History / Geography: Our topic for this term is Ancient Greece. We will be investigating how the Ancient Greeks lived and how their world still shapes ours today. We'll also be map-reading in Geography, exploring the Greek climate and landscape.

PE / Dance: We'll be developing our ball handling, reaction time and team skills in both indoors and outdoor P.E. For the next four weeks, we are also very lucky to have a specialist teacher to help us explore the story of Perseus through dance!

Spanish: Mrs. Golden will teach Spanish with this term's topic being shopping.

Art / DT: We'll be using a range of skills including drawing, painting, textile and 3D work. In DT, we will be finding out about the diet of the Ancient Greeks and how it compares to ours. We will also be baking bread.

Music: Year 5 will have a weekly violin lesson. In addition to a weekly singing assembly, all children will study *The Ten Pieces*.

Computing: We will learn to write and edit our blogs to share our ideas and opinions.

R.E. We will think about what forgiveness means to the Christian faith.

Homework, reading records and routines

Mornings:

After being collected from the line at 8.50am, there will be early morning work for the children to complete.

Homework:

The children will receive the following homework:

- **Learning Log** work linked to our topics (2 per half term). Tasks will be a mixture of writing, research, art and design projects and opportunities to use their computing skills. The more effort the children put into the homework, the greater the number of house points awarded.

ed. I can't wait to see what they produce!

- **Maths** homework will be given out weekly on a Friday for return the following Wednesday.

- **Spellings:** the children will be given a weekly list to learn on a Friday with a short test the following Wednesday.

Reading records:

Books and reading records should come into school daily. Please encourage the children to keep a record of their reading and what they think about a book. It's also good to make a note of any new words as this really helps to develop

a broad vocabulary. When they read with an adult in school, this will also be recorded. Please could parents write a brief comment in the records once a week. Reading records are an invaluable way of communicating between home and school and remind the children of the importance of reading regularly.

Payments to school:

Please ensure all monies are placed in an envelope labeled with your child's name and class.

Any comments/concerns?

I am available before and after school every day. Please say hello!