




























Year 5 and 6 Class Newsletter Autumn Term 2 2024 - 2025

Dear Parents of Year 5 and 6,

Welcome back to the part two of the Autumn Term. We have another busy 7 weeks ahead of us including a range of exciting topics and practical activities as outlined below:

Our Autumn Term 2 Curriculum

English – Writing	<p>This half-term in English, we are developing our writing skills firstly through thinking about persuasion, both linking to our upcoming bakery trip and are new history topic – would you prefer to be a Spartan or Athenian? From here, we will then be moving on to the wonderful world of Greek Mythology, with an end aim of writing our own Greek-inspired tales! Particular skills we are going to be focussing on include use of relative clauses to add extra information; embedded clauses; correct use of speech marks for dialogue; and effective use of dialogue to move a story forward.</p>																																
English – Reading	<p>Our term starts with exploring the poem ‘In Flanders Fields,’ in which we will be practising our retrieval and explanation skills, as well as using the poem as a chance to reflect on the significance of Remembrance Day. Following on, we will be diving into a modern classic by Rick Riordan: Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief, once again linking with our history topic, as well as supporting our skills as writers through reading the exciting first book in a series where Demigod Percy Jackson leads a quest across America to prevent a war among the Olympian gods. Whilst reading this text, our main VIPERS skill will be prediction and inference.</p>																																
Mathematics	<p>This half-term we are continuing to develop our skills with the four operations including a significant focus on how to solve more complicated word-problem, before moving onto the topic of fractions. Within fractions, we will be learning how to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare and order fractions whose denominators are all multiples of the same number. • Identify, name and write equivalent fractions of a given fraction, represented visually, including tenths and hundredths. • Recognise mixed numbers and improper fractions and convert from one form to the other • Add and subtract fractions with the same denominator and denominators that are multiples of the same number • Multiply proper fractions and mixed numbers by whole numbers, supported by materials and diagrams. <div style="text-align: right;">  <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"> <tbody> <tr><td></td><td>= 1</td><td>= 1</td><td>= 100%</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>= 1/2</td><td>= 0.5</td><td>= 50%</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>= 1/3</td><td>= 0.33</td><td>= 33.3%</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>= 1/4</td><td>= 0.25</td><td>= 25%</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>= 1/5</td><td>= 0.2</td><td>= 20%</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>= 1/6</td><td>= 0.125</td><td>= 12.5%</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>= 1/10</td><td>= 0.1</td><td>= 10%</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>= 1/100</td><td>= 0.01</td><td>= 1%</td></tr> </tbody> </table> </div>		= 1	= 1	= 100%		= 1/2	= 0.5	= 50%		= 1/3	= 0.33	= 33.3%		= 1/4	= 0.25	= 25%		= 1/5	= 0.2	= 20%		= 1/6	= 0.125	= 12.5%		= 1/10	= 0.1	= 10%		= 1/100	= 0.01	= 1%
	= 1	= 1	= 100%																														
	= 1/2	= 0.5	= 50%																														
	= 1/3	= 0.33	= 33.3%																														
	= 1/4	= 0.25	= 25%																														
	= 1/5	= 0.2	= 20%																														
	= 1/6	= 0.125	= 12.5%																														
	= 1/10	= 0.1	= 10%																														
	= 1/100	= 0.01	= 1%																														

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognise the percent symbol (%) and understand that percent relates to 'number of parts per hundred', write percentages as a fraction with denominator 100, and as a decimal. Solve problems which require knowing percent & decimal equivalents of $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{5}$, $\frac{2}{5}$, $\frac{4}{5}$ and those fractions with a denominator of a multiple of 10 or 25. <p>Weekly maths homework shall be related to this topic, particularly with quick recall of conversions between fractions, decimals and percentages as shown in the image above. Please support your child in knowing these facts, just as you do with quick recall of times tables.</p>
Science	Our next science topic this term is 'Properties of Materials' – this is a very rich topic and therefore will continue into the Spring term. For the first 6 weeks, we shall be looking at grouping and classifying materials based on their properties (including hardness, transparency, solubility, how well they work as a thermal insulator, whether they are magnetic, and whether they conduct electricity) and making suggestions for the best material to use for a purpose based on our own comparative fair tests.
History	Linking heavily with our writing and reading this half-term, we are learning all about the Ancient Greeks in history. With so much to possibly study and investigate, we will be leaving particular lines of enquiry to the pupils' own choice, as well as exploring topics such as the Olympics and Greek Gods and Goddesses. As historians, we will be looking at layered timelines, exploring reasons for settlement locations – making links with previous geography learning – and using a range of sources to come to our own conclusions to answer questions.
Art	Inspired by the work of Paul Klee, we will be carefully studying the use of colour using a range of paints including acrylics and water colours, and exploring different painting techniques. This will be in preparation for choosing a medium and style to create our own visually interesting paintings.
RE	Our RE question this term is: Why do religions or non-religious groups celebrate important moments in life? The learning in this unit is designed to enable pupils to learn in depth from different religious and spiritual ways of life, relating to milestones on the journey of life. Through exploring key religious rites of passage including, baptism, Bar and Bat Mitzvah, Hindu samskaras and marriage, the will pupils explore how and why people choose to mark significant moments in life, before reflecting on similarities and differences, as well as their personal thoughts on why they think ceremonies of commitment are or are not valuable today.
Computing	In computing, we are creating quest games of multiple levels, including designing the setting so that it fits with a selected theme, as well as uploading images and use the drawing tools to create features. Children will then try to make their game more unique by selecting the appropriate options to maximise the playability, and finally, write informative instructions for their game so that other people can play it.
PSHE	In PSHE, we are exploring how to become digitally literate, looking at the wide variety of information available online through search-engines, as well as identifying the difference between fact and opinion and how this is a vital skill to help us stay safe online.
French	'Ma Famille' is our French unit this half-term, in which we shall learn how to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tell somebody the members, names and various ages of either their own or a fictional family in French. Continue to count in French, enabling students to say the age of various family members. Understand the concept of the possessive adjectives 'mon', 'ma' and 'mes' in French.

- | | |
|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Move from 1st person singular to 3rd person singular of the two high frequency verbs used in this unit: s'appeler (to be called) and avoir (to have). |
|--|---|

Homework Routines and Expectations

Thank you for all the hard work with supporting reading, spelling and homework this past half-term. We seem to be in a good routine, and I know there are quite a few Bronze Reading Certificates waiting in the wings already! Please continue to read with your child as regularly as you can, and ask them questions about what they have read. This can be about their school book, or any other literature that they enjoy – comics, magazines, recipes and sides of cereal boxes all count as reading. Please also support your child in completing their Reading Record every time they read at home, aiming for 3 or more times a week.

Homework expectations continue as last term, with each week the children being set:

- Google Classroom maths task
- Google Classroom English task
- Ed-Shed spelling assignment of 3+ games
- Reading 3+ times a week

Additionally, there are spellings to be learnt in your child's spelling passport, which is in the back of their reading record.

Wrapping up for Winter

Thankfully, we're not quite diving into Christmas activities just yet, but as the weather turns chillier, please ensure your child comes to school with a suitable coat for the weather. We endeavour to go outside every break time for fresh air, and children need to be equipped to do so. Hats, gloves and scarves are also able to be brought it – and, of course, please make sure every item is clearly named with your child's name or initials.

Queries and Questions

We understand that as the children get older, day-to-day parent-teacher interaction becomes less frequent as pupils become more independent, and this is something we positively encourage. However, please do not hesitate to arrange a time to meet with me, or email/phone the school if you ever have any questions or concerns regarding your child's schooling.

Mrs Hood

Year 5 and 6 Class Teacher