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Edmondsley Primary School  
January 2017

Dear Parents,

We hope you all had a very happy Christmas break and are looking forward to a successful New Year.

During this half term we will be studying the Greeks. We will start by looking at modern day Greece using atlases to locate and describe the country and its climate, before moving on to look in greater depth at the Ancient Greeks. We will research what life was like in Ancient Greece and discuss Greek soldiers; weapons and ships, looking closely at illustrations of ancient Greek pottery. We will also look into Greek attitudes to theatre as well as researching the origins of the Olympic Games.

Our Greek theme will continue into art and Design Technology where we are going to explore patterns and images from Ancient Greece to make and decorate our cardboard picture frame. A letter will be sent out later in the term requesting materials from home.

In English the children will begin by learning about Greek myths. We are going to read the story of Perseus and Medusa to identify the features of a myth before creating our own mythological creature to use in the planning and writing of our own myth. Within this work we will concentrate on punctuating speech correctly and selecting words for effect. We will then apply our topic learning to write explanation texts about the Ancient Greek way of life, focussing our work on verb tenses and writing for a range of audiences and purposes.

As usual, through whole class, guided and individual reading, we will continue to encourage independent reading confidence and comprehension skills.

Maths this half term will include rehearsing place value in 3 digit numbers, ordering them on a number line, comparing number sentences, and solving problems using addition and subtraction by beginning to use more formal methods of calculation. We will continue to identify unit fractions and start to find fractions of amounts. We will start to look at angles as a property of shape and

help the children to identify right angles and recognise whether angles are greater or less than  $90^\circ$ . The revision of times tables learned (particularly the 2x, 3x, 4x, 5x, 10x) deriving division facts and considering remainders, will be ongoing.

In Computing we will look to further refine online search skills, applying this learning to work in pairs to research a location and produce a tourist guide or poster to advertise Greece and link in with our topic.

In R.E. our key question will be '*What was life like for Jesus as a boy and how does it compare to a child's life today?*'

In Personal Development lessons, we will look at the power of Positive Thinking as part of our *Going for Goals* theme.

Swimming will continue each Wednesday morning. PE, each Thursday, will be gymnastics. A reminder please to ensure PE kit is ideally kept in a recognisable *and always named* bag in the cloakroom.

Ukulele lessons will continue each Thursday to help everyone develop their musical skills.

In French we will begin to practise saying the days of the week and begin to learn some simple weather phrases.

Things to remember....

***Please encourage your child to bring his/her organiser and reading book to school every day.*** Thank you to everyone who has kept the home reading and recording going, supported their children to learn the weekly spelling lists and to complete all homework promptly. A reminder that new spelling lists are stuck into the personal organisers each Monday, to be learned for the following Monday. Everyone bringing their organiser/reading book and homework folder on Monday mornings, will receive a golden coin.

Please keep the water bottles coming every day, with ***plain water only*** and a reliable cap to prevent leakage!

If the weather is snowy or wet, please remember boots/wellies are essential, with at least one change of socks to prevent wet, uncomfortable feet.

If have any queries or concerns about any of the above, please call in to see us, after school any day.

Yours sincerely,

***Mrs Stephenson, Miss Skidmore and Mrs Pears***



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In English the children will be using persuasive language linked to saving the rainforest and attractions visitors to South America. Our objectives will be to link our writing using connectives, conjunctions and paragraphs as well as organising our writing using features to keep our presentation clear. We will then look at stories from imaginary worlds, developing characters and settings of our own, making simple links between paragraphs and using subordinate clauses in different positions.

As usual, through whole class, guided and individual reading, we will continue to encourage independent reading confidence and comprehension skills.

Maths this half term will focus on problem solving and reasoning in different areas of Maths. Our objectives will be to develop competence in calculation mental and written methods for all four operations, solving problems with all operations. We will also solve problems using fractions and shapes; including symmetry and angles.

In Computing we will look to further refine online search skills, applying this learning to work in pairs to research a location and produce a tourist guide or poster to advertise Greece and link in with our topic.

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