

A very warm welcome back to all Year 5 pupils and parents! I hope you had a wonderful Christmas and a spectacular New Year.

# Expect The Unexpected: What Ancient Greek Discoveries Made A Difference?

Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us.

*Marianne Williamson*

Thank you for all your support throughout the Autumn Term and what an amazing first term we had: Builders Box creations that have impressed everyone, an inspirational assembly, a team-building visit to Mount Cook and a simply sensational Advent Performance. What will this next term bring?

In RE, we will start with the topic of 'Mission', where the children will explore their mission in life, with inspiration from Jesus and his disciples. Key question: Do we all have a mission in life? Our second topic will be 'Memorial Sacrifice'; we will look at the incredible sacrifice Jesus made for us. Key question: Why do we need memories? Our final topic before Easter will be 'Sacrifice'- this links well to the sacrifices we might make during lent and the sacrifice Jesus made. Key question: Why do we need to make sacrifices? Our exploration of another World Faith-Judaism- will give us chance to focus on the celebration of the Passover and the ways in which Jews remember this key event.

**English:** In English, we will be exploring the story of 'Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief' from the Percy Jackson series, using both text and film to inspire the children's writing. Year 5 will continue to develop their understanding of spelling, punctuation and grammar so that they are writing not only imaginatively but accurately.

**Maths:** This term we are going to face the challenges of fractions, decimals and percentages, whilst continuing to explore all four operations. The children will learn a range of ways to solve mathematical problems so that they have a variety of skills to draw upon when faced with a problem. Throughout the term we will practise our mental maths in different ways such as: games, songs or challenges!

In **Science**, we will focus on Physics whilst investigating the topics of Space and Earth and Light. As always, there will be opportunity for exploration and hands-on science, which the children thoroughly enjoy.

#### Life Skills:

This term, the children will be taking part in Life Skills lessons to encourage the children to develop an understanding of the world around them and train them in becoming global citizens of the world. It will increase their awareness of drugs and how to have a responsible attitude towards them. We will also look at the changes the children will experience as they grow up and how to have a healthy lifestyle. There will be follow-up letters about these lessons but if you have any immediate queries, please feel free to see me.

ONE OF THE MOST  
IMPORTANT KEYS TO  
**SUCCESS**  
IS HAVING THE  
DISCIPLINE TO DO  
WHAT YOU KNOW YOU  
SHOULD DO, EVEN  
WHEN YOU DON'T  
FEEL LIKE DOING IT.  
(TODD SMITH)



## Topic

**History and Geography** will both link to Ancient Greece. We will be exploring the incredible discoveries of the Ancient Greeks through primary artefacts. We will also compare the impact of tourism in both Greece and Nottingham.

**Art** lessons will provide opportunity for the children to develop their skills of designing and sculpting their own creations with clay. **In DT and Computing**, the children will build their own Lego creation and explore how coding can help them to do this.

In **PE** we will continue our practise of invasion games to develop our team work and leadership skills. We are also very lucky as Year 5 will have chance to develop their Tennis skills during lessons with an external coach (watch out Andy Murray!). Dance will begin on the second week back (Friday 19th Jan). We also hope to spend some time at Glapton Woods to develop our confidence and respect for nature and the environment in our **Forest Schools** programme.

Continuing from last term, Year 5 will develop their **French** vocabulary in their language lessons.

The greatest discovery of any generation is that a human can alter his life by altering his attitude.

William James

## Help from Home!

- Please check Homework diaries regularly for weekly information about your child's work and progress. Please sign diaries weekly- the previous week will be checked on a **Monday**. Your child should be filling in every day what pages they have been reading. We have recently had some new book additions to our Year 5 library (which the children and myself were very excited about) and I really hope the children have enjoyed reading the new books over the holidays.
- Children will be given homework each week on a **Tuesday and a Friday**. They will be reminded to write down their homework and its due date in their diary and as Year 5s they are encouraged to take responsibility for remembering to complete their homework but they may need the odd reminder from someone at home to get it done! Homework is not something that should worry them and I will remind them that if they are ever struggling to complete a homework task, then they should come and see me.
- It is very important that all children can recall their number facts quickly and correctly, so when possible please encourage your child to practise their multiplication, division, addition and subtraction skills. It can really help! There are lots of ideas for useful websites on the blog.
- *"If you don't have time to read, you don't have the time (or the tools) to write. Simple as that."* - Stephen King. **Reading every day is essential.** Please discuss characters, themes, plots and ask for your child's opinions on the books they are reading; this will help with their success in English. Recording this information in their homework diary is extremely useful evidence of their reading.
- Please ensure your child has their PE Kit in school every day. They need a suitable PE kit for both indoor and outdoor PE. Their outdoor PE kit should include a hoodie and something to keep their legs warm (gym leggings or jogging bottoms).
- Children will be given a list of spellings each week on a **Tuesday**. These will be tested the following Tuesday. Please keep a check of these regularly. A useful way to practise spellings is to include them in interesting or funny sentences.

## Key Dates:

Thursday 11th Jan: Whole School Mass 9am  
Friday 19th Jan: Dance Lessons Begin  
Friday 2nd Feb: NSPCC Number Day  
Thursday 8th Feb: KS2 Talent Show 1:30pm  
Friday 9th Feb: KS1 Talent Show 9am  
Wednesday 14th Feb: Whole School Mass in Church (9:30am)  
Wednesday 28th Feb: Music Evening 6pm  
Thursday 1st March: World Book Day  
Tuesday 13th March: Parent Consultations 4-7pm  
Wednesday 14th March: Parent Consultations 1:30-3:30  
Friday 23rd March: Sport Relief Fundraiser  
Thursday 29th March: Whole School Mass- The Last Supper 9am/ Break up for Easter holidays

Keep up to date with our adventures by visiting our

blog at [www.brwacadamy.com](http://www.brwacadamy.com)

Discovery consists of seeing what everybody has seen and thinking what nobody has thought.

- ALBERT SZENT-GYÖRGYI

I am very excited for the Spring Term ahead with Year 5. If you have any questions or concerns about your child please feel free to get in touch so we can discuss them further. Thank you so much for your support and help as always.

Miss Cotter