

Foxes Class Newsletter for Term 3



Dear Parents,

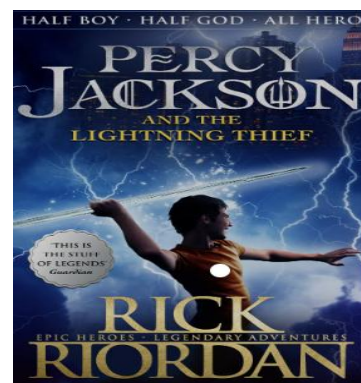
I hope you all have had a wonderful Christmas break and are all feeling refreshed. We had a fantastic term last term learning all about our 'Awesome Earth', the children loved learning about natural disasters making volcanoes. The children also made some fantastic videos sharing all their knowledge about Space for their computing lessons. This term, we will be studying the ancient Greeks and learning all about the gods, mythological creatures, myths and way of life for the ancient Greek people.

Thank you for your continued support. Please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office or on the gate at any point (apart from Wednesdays). We are happy to help and support you and your child as best as we can.

Our Curriculum

Our Humanities topic is The Ancient Greeks. We will be learning about the geographical location of Greece and its physical features, comparing it to Ancient Greece. We will study modern Greek culture and create a factfile. We will go on to look at the Ancient Greeks, who they were and how they lived.

In our English lessons we will be studying the books Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief and Mythologica. We will be using this text to write character descriptions which we will use when we write our own stories. Later in the term, we will be writing a newspaper report and a poem.



Reversible and Irreversible Changes



In Science, our theme is 'Properties and Changes of Materials'. We will be exploring and comparing different types of materials and conducting lots of tests. We will be looking at and conducting some reversible and non-reversible changes.

In Art this term we are looking at sculptures and studying the work of famous sculptors such as Alberto Giacometti. The children will make their own sculptures of a person doing an Olympic Sport out of Modroc.

Long term homework is not set formally but if your child is interested in researching something related to our humanities or science topics, they are more than welcome to do so and share their findings with the class. This could be a PowerPoint, poster, pictures and facts or model, for example.

Further information about our curriculum can be found on the school website.



Mathematics

For Maths, we use the Whiterose scheme of learning. This term we will be finishing fractions and revisiting multiplication and division. This time we will be moving on from factors and multiples to learn formal written methods of multiplication and division. We will be focusing on reasoning questions and how to explain their methods.



All children also need to be practising their timetables (using TT Rockstars). Login details can be found in the front of their reading record books. The children will complete a minimum of one soundcheck, 5 Studio games and 5 Garage games each week. This should take around 11 minutes and can be completed at home or at school. The children will receive 5 house points for completing them all and the whole class will receive 5 class points if they all complete their allotted sessions.



PE- Our PE lessons will be Thursdays this term

Our PE topic this term will be dodgeball. We will be inside for our PE lessons this term. We will be learning the rules of the game, how to dodge and use the space effectively.

Please can you make sure your child has the right PE kit. No earrings are to be worn on PE days unless your child can take them out themselves. If needed, please provide a hair band for your child as their hair will need to be up. Children will have bare feet in the hall, please provide plimsolls if this might be a problem for your child.

Weekly Spellings

We are now using Spelling Shed to teach and practice spellings. They will have a 30 minute lesson every Tuesday which will focus on a spelling rule or pattern, followed by spelling activities throughout the week linked to the spelling rule or pattern being studied.

A list of the spelling rules/patterns will be sent home weekly with the children, sometimes along with optional activities for them to complete. The terms spellings will also be made available on the class page of the school website.

Each Monday your child will have a spelling test based on the spelling patterns from the week before. We may also include spellings from previous weeks as well as the Year 5 common exception words that we will also be practising in school. They will complete their test in spelling books which will be marked and then sent home for you to share. New spellings will be sent home each Tuesday to be practised during the week at home and tested the following week in school.

Pupils will also have a Spelling Shed account, that gives them access to the online games which will support them in learning the weekly spellings. We would like children to spend **at least 10 minutes per week** playing these games as it will really help strengthen their recall.

A Parent Guide is available here: <https://play.edshed.com/en-gb/login>

Reading

In Year 5, the children continue to use the Accelerated Reading programme, where children have been assessed at the beginning of term, in order to identify a level in which they need to read at. They need to read within this range – they do a quiz on the book once they've read it and this gives us an indication of the comprehension. Quizzes can only be done in school. The aim is to get 100% in a quiz and so sometimes a child might be asked to choose a lower level based on their level of comprehension, rather than fluency alone.



We have noticed that a lot of the children are not reading at home, please could you try to encourage them as much as possible. Reading really does have a big impact on all their learning.

Please use the following link to sign up for email notifications for Home Connect. You will then receive an email each time your child completes a quiz in school. You will also be able to find out how they are doing with their termly reading targets. Your child's login details are in their reading records.

<https://global-zone61.renaissance-go.com/studentprogress/homeconnect?t=6706259>

We have an accelerated reading session each day in class, so please ensure your child brings their reading book and reading record into school every day.



Cooking

As part of our DT curriculum, all of the children will get the opportunity to take part in cooking lessons with Mrs Siggers in the kitchen. The children will not all go at the same time and may not cook until the end of the year. The children have been split into groups and each group will attend five sessions across the term. When it is your child's turn, you will receive a letter with all of the details. In order to cover the cost of the ingredients, we are asking for a contribution of £5 per child. This only needs to be paid when it is your child's turn. They will also need to bring in a Tupperware box each week to take home their cooking.

We would love to have reading volunteers to come into school and hear the children read. If you do have any free time or know anyone that would like to volunteer, please contact the school office.



If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact myself via the school office.

Kind Regards,

Miss Hipkiss