



PLAINS FARM ACADEMY

YEAR 5 NEWSLETTER

Autumn Term - 2019



It's All Greek To Me!

Our Autumn topic is centred around Ancient Greece where we will be learning all about the life and times of the people who lived in Ancient Greece. Alongside this, we will be looking at forces in science, Northern Saints in RE lessons and we will be using our Purple Mash programme in computing lessons to look at programming and control.

Literacy

In writing lessons, we will be looking at writing our own five part narrative, based on our class novel *The Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman. Later on in the half term, we'll be using the book to write our own recounts. Daily guided reading lessons will focus on key reading skills looking at fiction, non-fiction and poetry on a three weekly cycle. Children will also have daily spelling and grammar sessions to develop key skills.



Maths

Maths lessons will focus on place value, with an emphasis on recognising the value of digits in numbers up to 1 million. We will also be looking at place value in decimal numbers, addition and subtraction—including solving problems, area and perimeter and identifying and finding the value of angles. We will also have daily multiplication tables practise as the children will need to use these number facts throughout the year across the maths curriculum.

Science

Our first science topic this half term is forces. Within this topic, we'll learn about the different forces that are used and the effect they have on every aspect of our lives. This topic is designed to get the children thinking and use their scientific knowledge through observing, asking questions, setting up experiments, recording the outcomes and using their scientific knowledge to describe what has happened.



History and Geography

Our main topic this half term is Ancient Greece. In history lessons, we will be looking at finding the area on a map and what occupies the land today. We will learn about key figures in Greek history, including Gods and Goddesses, and inventions which are still used today. We will look at the different kinds of foods and structures and link this to DT sessions.



PE

As part of the year five curriculum, the children have weekly swimming lessons at the Puma Centre. These lessons enable the children to learn different strokes and build up to swimming awards. As our lesson begins at 2pm, we will be late back to school on a Tuesday—no later than 3.3.0pm. As well as swimming, the children will also develop their athletic skills, which links well with our Ancient Greece topic.



RE

In RE lessons, the children will learn about the Northern Saints, including who they were, why they are significant in the North East and why they are important religious figures.

Music

This term, we're lucky enough to have Mr Brown take our music lessons. The children will learn different musical vocabulary and learn to compose their own music.



Computing

We will continue using our Purple Mash computing programme in school to develop our computing knowledge. This half term, we will be looking at programming and control, which involves setting up codes to deliver a specific outcome. We will also be looking at using Education City, which the children can access from home. Passwords and usernames will be sent home in due course. The children will also have access to Times Table Rock Stars, which they have already previously used, to continue developing their multiplication knowledge.



Art and Design

Linked to our main topic, *It's All Greek To Me*, the children will look at designing their own structures based on Ancient Greek temples and statues. We will also be looking at food, making our own version of classic Greek dishes.

French

Our French lessons this half term will develop the children's basic French vocabulary and look at healthy eating. *Tres bien!*



Welcome back, and welcome to year 5! The autumn term, although a busy one, is an exciting one full of new experiences and adventures. In year 5, the children take part in many different events and activities throughout the year, including weekly swimming lessons, bikeability and an optional residential visit to Derwent Hill in the spring term. Letters and details about these will be sent out well in advance. Myself, Miss Cole (Schools Direct Trainee) and Miss Oxberry are available at the beginning and end of the day for any queries you may have.

Reminders

- Homework is sent out every Friday (Spellings are sent on a Monday for a test on a Friday). It must be handed in on a Wednesday into the homework box in class. If a child is absent, it is their responsibility to get their homework when they return. An extension will be given for the hand-in date.
- Home reading is still an essential part of year 5 and we encourage children to read longer stories and novels, particularly books of their choice or related to class topics. Each child will be heard reading at least once a week in school, so they must have their reading diaries in school each day.
- Ensure your child has a full PE kit in school all week. They should bring in their indoor/outdoor PE kit on a Monday and hang it on their peg. This should be taken home on a Friday to be washed. Swimming is on a Tuesday afternoon and every child must participate as it is a national curriculum requirement. A letter will be sent out about swimming kits the week before swimming commences.
- Please label all your child's clothes with their name—it always makes it easier to locate lost items of clothing at the end of a school day.
- Please keep us up to date with who will be collecting your child from school each day by updating your named adult list kept in school. If your child is able to walk home on their own, please sign and return the consent form as soon as possible.
- A named water bottle should be in school every day. The children have access to fresh water to refill their bottle.
- Please ensure your child is in school on time everyday.