

Year 5/6 Autumn 2: Gods and Mortals

Dear Parents,

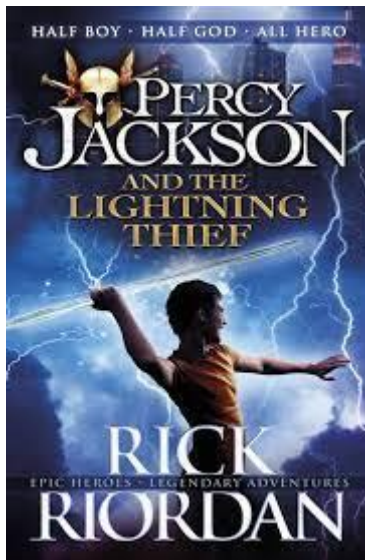
We hope your children enjoyed their start in year 5 and 6, and have had a well-earned break over half term.

In this newsletter, you will find information on the current theme and some other key information for the year including key dates for your diary and PE days.

Kind Regards,

The Year 5/6 team

Mr Todd, Mrs Barker, Miss Stanton, Miss Cook and Mr Jones



Theme

This half term, our curriculum will be based around the wonderful *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan. From this starting point, we will be investigating the Ancient Greeks as a whole. We will look at what life was like for Ancient Greek men, women and slaves, the influence the Greek Pantheon of Gods had and the changing fortunes of the various city-states which made up the Ancient Greek world. We will use a range of historical sources and consider how we can discover information from so many years ago! We will also consider the geography of Greece and consider how this shaped the founding of Greek civilisation.

In Art and DT, we will look at Greek theatre masks before designing and creating our own out of clay.

To finish, we will consider the legacy of Ancient Greece and in which areas of modern life you would still find Ancient Greek influence today.

English

We will be writing non-chronological reports about the 'big three' Greek gods, narrative stories about fighting monsters and retrieving the lightning bolt, leaflets to inform Demi-gods about Camp Half-Blood and instructional writing about how to retrieve the three pearls to confront Hades and escape the underworld unharmed! We will also be linking our driver text to a range of fiction, non-fiction, videos and poetry in our guided reading sessions.

Maths

After finishing securing our understanding of the four written methods, we will go on to recap and expand our knowledge with fractions, percentages and decimals. We will begin to look at shapes and angles, as well as looking at measuring time, mass and capacity.

Key notices:

- Friday 25th November: Katie Grey (Paralympic Athlete) in school,
- Children should bring their planners in everyday and these will be checked at least once a week by the class teacher.
- Year 6 will visit the library on Thursday afternoons and Year 5 Library Days will be Friday,
- **PE days are the following:**
Rabbits: Thursday and Friday
Hedgehogs: Wednesday and Thursday
Eagle: Wednesday and Friday
- Woodpecker: Monday and Wednesday

These days may occasionally change so please make sure your child's PE kit is labelled and in school every day. If your child cannot undertake PE for any reason, they should bring a note explaining why.

Year 5/6 Home Learning

If you can help with reading in school and hold a Hampshire Education D.B.S please can you let your class teacher know. It really does help and the children love it.

Spellings

Spellings will be tested every Friday, with the new words given out after the test.

There will be between 8-10 words that follow the rule we are looking at in class, building on the spelling sessions in school that week.

The words tested may not be exactly as the words given out but will require children to use their knowledge of suffixes and prefixes too!

i.e. immediate might become immediately for the test!

English

English home learning will be set via Seesaw on a Friday with the expectation that the task will be completed by the following Wednesday.

The tasks that are set will alternate between SPaG activities and a reading task.

Times Tables Rockstars

Regular practice will help your children become fluent times tables rockstars. Times Tables help with so many different areas of maths and are key for all year 5/6 students!

Keep an eye out for any competitions or challenges online!

Maths

Maths home learning will be set via Seesaw on a Friday with the expectation that the task will be completed by the following Wednesday.

The tasks that are set will be in line with what the children have been learning that week in Maths.

Reading – This year we are really promoting a love of reading as it underpins all learning.

We expect the children to be reading 5 times a week at home. Please can **three** of these times be to an adult and **this needs to be recorded and signed in the planner every week.** We are happy for you to read to your child, share audio books, take turns in reading pages etc but the most important thing is to talk about what has been read.

WE WILL BE COLLECTING IN ALL PLANNERS ON A MONDAY TO LOOK AT THE READING THAT HAS HAPPENED AT HOME.

Early Morning Activities

Early morning activities begin at 8:40am and focus on the key skills of reading, maths and grammar. Please ensure you are here on time to take part!

Helping at Home

Below are some ideas of what you can do with your child over the next half term to support the learning at school

Practise:

Spelling tests will take place on a Friday. Please support your child by discussing the current week's rules with them and the spellings they are learning. In the back of their planners is a list of words they should be able to spell in KS2.

Please aim for at least 3 sessions on TTRS per week. Please speak to your child's class teacher if your child has forgotten their logon details.

Talk and explore (Here are some example questions to generate discussion about what we will be doing at school. Some of these will not be covered at the beginning of the term)

- Which Greek God do you like best? Why?
- Would you like to have lived in Ancient Greece?
- What are your plans for designing your mask? What do you want your mask to look like?
- Can you show me how Scratch works (a coding programme available online for free)?

Watch and Play

Greek Gods

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z87tn39/articles/zgt7mp3>

Learn about Ancient Greece through games!

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z7nrydm/articles/z2ngf82>

Scratch - used in computing this half term.

<https://scratch.mit.edu/>

Read

Please continue to read with your child at home and discuss the characters and the themes in the stories. When reading, please make a note in their planners.