



Curriculum Newsletter

GOLDSBOROUGH SICKLINGHALL Federation



‘Working together to be the best that we can be’

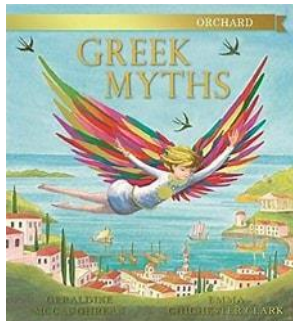
Willow– September-October 2023

The Christian / Human Values we are exploring this half term are: Kindness and Creation

Our ‘Big Thinking’ SMSC Question for this half term is: ‘How did people in the past show kindness? What did they believe about creation?’

English

In English this half term the children will be writing a non-chronological report on ancient Greece concentrating on; cohesion, structure, using historically accurate vocabulary, conjunctions and adverbials of time and place.



We will then be writing a myth and legend narrative based on the myth ‘Theseus and The Minotaur’. We will be reading lots of myths over the half term and discussing their impact and structure. We will use the inspiration to create our own fiction narrative. We will be concentrating on; descriptive writing, structure of a narrative, cohesion and the use of punctuation accurately.

In reading this half term we will be exploring a variety of texts around the topic of ancient Greece. We will be focusing on retrieving information, understanding vocabulary and summarising information.

Maths

Maths – Our focus is Place Value

- In our Maths lessons we will explore Place Value and addition and subtraction.

- When exploring Place Value in our Maths lessons pupils will focus on recognising numbers, the value of each digit in numbers, comparing numbers and rounding up to 1 million. Year 6 will be working with numbers up to 10 million. This will include pupils being able to read and write numbers both in numerals, roman numerals and words. Year 5 and 6 will learn how to count forwards and backwards in negative numbers to help them solve problems e.g. At 5 o'clock the temperature was 7 degrees Celsius. The temperature decreased by 12 degrees Celsius. What is the new temperature? Pupils will also learn to read numbers to 1,000 (M) to help them solve problems.
- Year 5 and 6 will be able to using column addition and subtraction to solve problems with increasingly larger numbers. They will be able to apply this understanding to solve multi-step problems in context deciding which operations and methods to use and why. Pupils will be able to use the inverse, estimation and rounding to help them to check their answers.

We will continue to offer problem solving opportunities for pupils to apply their understanding in a real-life context. We will challenge the children by asking them to reason about questions, this will encourage a greater depth of understanding.

How can I help?:

Ask your child to read aloud to you every day and record pages read in their planner. Encourage your child to read three times a week independently.

Recommended Reads:

Brightstorm: A Sky-Ship Adventure by Vashti Hardy. A thrilling steampunk adventure following siblings Arthur and Maudie Brightstorm as they try to find out what happened to their explorer father.

The Song Walker by Zillah Bethell. The Song Walker is a soulful story that beautifully serenades the reader with themes of freedom, identity, music and heritage. Zillah Bethell's writing always takes readers to new horizons

What are fluency and retrieval skills?

Fluency - reading the text quickly and accurately – we are aiming for 90 words per minute of an age-appropriate text.

Retrieval – Finding key pieces of information by skimming (looking quickly at the text to find key words) and scanning (reading a small part of the text closely to understand detail).

How can I help?

Regular use of Times Table Rock Stars will support children's rapid recall of key facts. Short, regular practise of the KIRFS, in relation to a day to day activity will also support rapid recall. (E.g. scaling the number of eggs when baking)

Useful Websites:

www.topmarks.co.uk

<https://www.iseemaths.com/lessons56/> (supports pupils reasoning and problem solving)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z826https://nrich.maths.org/13786n>





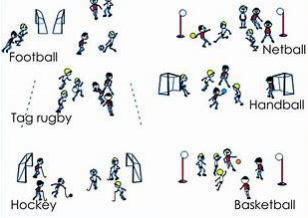
[39](https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z826https://nrich.maths.org/13786n) (supports pupils reasoning and problem solving)

<https://www.educationquizzes.com/ks2/maths/>

KIRF Target – Autumn Term

Each year group has their own set of KIRFs. Each week they will bring home a homework sheet which addresses these KIRFs. They will be collected in and marked in class on a Tuesday and filed in their maths folders.

Curriculum: Key Skills, Knowledge and Enrichment

Topic – History	Science - Materials	P.E
<p>Our focus is: Ancient Greece</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin: 10px 0;">  </div> <p>Skills / Knowledge to be developed: Over the course of this term, we will be learning what life was like as an Ancient Greek. As well as considering the impact Ancient Greece has on life today including democracy and the Olympics. We will be using primary and secondary sources in our research of Ancient Greece to answer historical enquiries e.g. What are the similarities and differences between democracy in ancient Athens and democracy today?</p> <p>Greater Depth Challenges: To be able to show events from the Ancient Greek period on a timeline and explain their relation in time to the Anglo Saxon and Viking periods. To be able summarise the Ancient Greek period and be able to discuss the significance of events, philosophers and discoveries.</p> <p>Applied through: Geography/English</p>	<p>Our focus is: Materials</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin: 10px 0;">    </div> <p>Skills / knowledge to be developed: This half term the children will be comparing and grouping together everyday materials, according to their properties. They will also discover how some materials will dissolve in water and describe how to recover a substance from a solution. Working scientifically the children will be able to give reasons, based on evidence from comparative and fair tests. To conclude they will be able to explain that some changes result in the formation of new materials, and that this kind of change is not usually reversible.</p> <p>Greater Depth Challenges: To be able to discuss and answer the PMI question with a positive, minus and an interesting thought: If water froze at a higher temperature than 0°C, icy weather would be more frequent. To cite evidence to justify a true or false answer relating to changes in temperature.</p> <p>Applied through: Scientific experiments and discussion.</p>	<p>Our focus is: Tag Ruby</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin: 10px 0;">  </div> <p>Skills / knowledge to be developed: This half term in PE we will be working on the basic principles of attacking and defending. We will be working on our communication skills.</p> <p>We will be linking our PE lessons to real life sporting events – the Rugby World Cup 2023.</p> <p>Greater Depth Challenges: To be able to evaluate their own and other skills in a constructive and respectful manner.</p> <p>Applied through: P.E lessons with Mr Colley</p>
<p>How can I help? Talk to your children about their learning on Ancient Greece Read Ancient Greek myths with your child at home.</p>	<p>How can I help? Discuss the properties of everyday materials and how their properties make them suitable for a purpose e.g. the bottom of a saucepan is made from metal because it is a thermal conductor.</p>	<p>How can I help? Please ensure that children have PE kit (including trainers) for the whole week as other indoor and outdoor sessions might take place at alternative times.</p>

Curriculum: Key Skills, Knowledge and Enrichment

Art	Music	PSHE / Wellbeing	R.E.
<p>Our focus is: Colour, drawing and painting</p> <p>Skills / knowledge to be developed:</p>  <p>This half term we will be exploring the work of the artists Vincent Van Gogh and Jean-Michel Basquiat. The children will develop their knowledge of colour mixing and a range of painting techniques before sketching their own composition and painting in the style of Van Gogh.</p> <p>Challenge: To explore mixing and matching of colours, taking time to perfect their colours by adding different hues and testing them until they are happy with the outcome</p> <p>Applied through: Art lessons</p>	<p>Our focus is: Pop Music We will be using the song Happy, by Pharrell Williams.</p>  <p>Skills / knowledge to be developed: The children will focus on Listening and Appraising music and be introduced to progressive Warm-up Games, Flexible Games and improvisation resources, alongside a new compose tool which will allow for more performance options.</p> <p>Greater Depth Challenges: Children to play instrumental parts accurately and in time as part of the performance by ear and by notation.</p> <p>Applied through: An integrated approach to music where games, the dimensions of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch etc), singing and playing instruments are all linked.</p>	<p>Our focus is: Families and Friendships</p> <p>Skills / knowledge to be developed: The children will focus on exploring what the features of positive and meaningful relationships are, and how to seek help with friendships if they are feeling upset or lonely. The children will also explore how to stay safe online; such as recognising online risks and how people may behave differently when online rather than face-to-face.</p>  <p>Greater Depth Challenges: Children will also develop their understanding of consent and what this means in online and offline relationships and continue to develop positive relationships in school.</p> <p>Applied through: Discussion, Partner/Group work, Relax Kids, Cosmic Kids. Videos. Emotional check-ins and meditation</p> 	<p>Our focus is: What does it mean to be a Muslim in Britain today?</p> <p>Skills / knowledge to be developed: Will be focussing on the five pillars of Islam and how the five pillars shape the lives of Muslims.</p> <p>Greater depth challenges: children to further develop their understanding of the key question: what does it mean to be in a faith community.</p> <p>Applied through: Discussion and debate</p> 
<p>How can I help?</p> <p>Encourage your child to look and evaluate a range of artwork. Have discussions on their opinions about artwork.</p>	<p>How can I help? Listen together – Music that makes you happy! Happy by Pharrell Williams, Top Of The World by The Carpenters, Walking on Sunshine by Katrina and the Waves and Your Smiling by Frank Sinatra.</p>	<p>How can I help? Talk with your child about their emotions and explore mindful moments using Relax Kids activities or Cosmic Yoga. https://www.relaxkids.com/</p>	<p>How can I help? Discuss how different people use different teachings to guide them in how to live their lives. e.g. Muslims use the Qu’ran’s teachings and the prophet Muhammad’s to help guide them in how to live.</p>

Curriculum: Key Skills, Knowledge and Enrichment

Computing

Our focus is: On digital presentation using the app keynote. Children will be able to design and make a presentation that links multimedia pages together with hyperlinks. This will then be delivered to the class and evaluated.



Skills / knowledge to be developed: how to design a presentation that links multimedia pages together with hyperlinks. How to choose applications to communicate to a specific audience. How to evaluate my own content and consider ways to improve.

Applied through: Computing, PSHE

How can I help ?

To remind your child of the importance of being safe online and checking your parental filters.

The use of most Social Media has an age restriction of 13.



Homework

Ongoing Homework

- **Reading:** a minimum of 15 minutes reading every night (logged by the children and noted in their Planner).
- **KIRF Target:** See attached letter.
- **Maths:** Please use Times Tables Rockstars weekly to practise rapid recall skills.
- **Spellings:** Learn the list of spellings which are given to the children each Friday. The patterns change every week. The children should also be practicing their Year 5 and 6 statutory words, these can be found in their planners.

Please encourage your children to discuss their homework at home in order that they develop the skills of explanation and reasoning.

Any Other Information / Dates for the Diary

We encourage you to follow our school Twitter account @GS_Federation.

We regularly post updates and photographs of what your children are learning in class alongside other important school information, reminders and updates.



Dates for the diary:

- Mon 4th & Tues 5th September - Teacher Training Days
- Friday 8th September – Ancient Greeks drama workshop
- Sunday 1st October – Black History Month begins
- Thursday 5th October – National Poetry Day
- Monday 9th October – Dark Nights and Fire Safety talk from the Fire Service
- Thursday 12th October – Venture Photography in school
- Tues 17th/ Weds 18th October – Parent/Carer Consultations
- Friday 20th October – Young Shakespeare presents Macbeth
- Wednesday 25th October – Harvest Festival Service
- Friday 27th October – Break the Rules Day

Thank you, as always, for your continuous help and support. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us or make an appointment at the office to arrange a meeting after school.

Mrs Richards and Miss Thompson