

**Reading**

In our reading lessons this half term, we will be focusing on the book 'The Adventures of Odysseus' by Hugh Lupton and Daniel Morden. The book retells the classic Greek myth of Odysseus' long and dangerous journey home after the Trojan War. The story follows Odysseus as he uses his courage, quick thinking and leadership to overcome extraordinary challenges, and will link with our History topic for this half term.

During our daily reading lessons, we will be practicing and refining a range of different reading skills. The skills include: retrieval, inference, prediction, summarising, clarifying, questioning and improving vocabulary (often by using a dictionary or Thesaurus). All of these skills help the children to become fluent readers with a good understanding of the texts they are reading. We aim to make connections to our books across the curriculum and the children will take part in a range of thoughtful, effective activities.

The Adventures of Odysseus – Hugh Lupton and Daniel Morden

Wider Curriculum –

Science – Our Science topic this half term is Physics and Electricity. The children will consider electrical safety. They will learn how to build a circuit with a range of components. They will consider the effects of voltage on light bulbs, buzzers and motors. They will finally consider 'renewable energy.'

History – Our History topic this half term is Ancient Greece. We will be investigating who the Ancient Greeks were, what they believed, how Ancient Greece was governed and how Greek philosophers still influence us today.

Art – We will be focusing on Art again this half term and our topic is 'Sculptures'. We will begin by looking at features of art installations before planning their own installation design.

French – In French, we will be building on our learning of French fruits and begin to learn the names of some vegetables. Children will learn how to give their opinion on different vegetables using 'I like' and 'I do not like' and participate in different role-playing activities by buying different quantities of vegetables at a market stall.

Writing –

This half term, we will use our class reading book as inspiration for several pieces of writing. Our focus text for this half term will be The Adventures of Odysseus. We will use the text as inspiration for a retell, non-chronological report and character description.

Throughout our writing lessons, children will use a range of devices including: formal language, factual language, rhetorical questions, paragraphs, expanded noun phrases, conjunctions, adverbs, parenthesis and relative clauses. We will also have regular spelling and grammar practise, in which children will have the opportunity to learn spelling rules and grammatical theories.

Retell – non-chronological report – character description

Spring term 1

School Value – Dignity and Respect

Year 5/6 → Zephaniah and Rosen

PSHE –

Our PSHE topic for this half term is 'Dreams and Goals'. During these lessons, we will complete a range of activities and discussions, as well as regular mindfulness activities.

Y5 – The content of these lessons include: looking ahead at my dream lifestyle, investigating jobs and careers, the steps I need to take to get my dream job, looking at the dreams and goals of young people in other cultures, understanding how we can support each other and rallying support.

Y6 – The content of these lessons include: setting personal learning goals, identifying steps to success, identifying problems in the world and my dream for the world, understanding how we can help to make a difference, and recognising our achievements.

Maths –

In all of our maths lessons, we aim to develop a depth of understanding using concrete, pictorial and abstract representations. There are lots of opportunities for mathematical discussion and we encourage children to apply their understanding to real-life contexts.

Year 5 → in year 5, we are moving on to division, with a focus on short division. After this, our focus will move to geometry, where we will look at area and scaling. We will also continue with Mastering Number where we will continue to look at multiplication facts.

Year 6 → in year 6, we will begin our half term by looking at the four operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will explore and practice a variety of methods for addition and subtraction before shifting out focus to multiplying and dividing by 2-digit numbers. After this, our focus moves to shape, space and measure. In this unit, we will focus on perimeter and area before moving on to position and direction. We will continue to practice a variety of useful arithmetic skills through tailored teaching throughout the half term.

**Fact fluency
Arithmetic skills.**

Religious Education –

Our key question is "What Would Jesus Do?" Pupils will learn that a disciple is a follower and learner of Jesus, and that Christians aim to live like Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit, supported by forgiveness and community. They will study Gospel texts—such as teachings, parables, and narratives—consider their meanings in context and compare different Christian interpretations. Pupils will make connections between Jesus' "good news" and how Christians live today, both individually and collectively, and relate biblical ideas such as peace, forgiveness, and healing to contemporary issues in their own lives and communities.