

Friday 16th September 2016

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Ivy Class. I hope you all had a lovely summer holiday and am pleased to see the children have all returned with lots of enthusiasm for the new school year. So far they have been keen to share their memories of the summer Olympics and have all completed a book recommendation. The children will be developing some art work based on an athlete of their choice. This term our main theme will be 'Greece'.

We will start by investigating life in Ancient Greece; learning about the ancient Olympics, myths, city states, democracy and life in general. There will also be a Key Stage 2 Greek dress up and activity day on Tuesday 18th October. In English we will be looking at Greek myths and starting with a focus on the 12 labours of Hercules and writing our own labour. We will also work on instructions texts, poems and comparisons.

After the October half term we will start looking at Greece as a modern day country; investigating the geography of the country and comparing it to the UK.

In maths this term we will focus on securing place value, place value in larger numbers (up to 10 000 000) and in decimal numbers and using this to help with different calculations (addition and subtraction, multiplication and division). We will also be revising and developing formal written methods of calculation, focusing on using these to solve problems and check our accuracy using the inverse (the opposite calculation).

Mrs Moss will be taking Ivy class on Thursdays. She will focus on measuring in maths and provide a spelling and grammar lesson. The children will be set weekly spelling and grammar homework which will be sent home on Fridays and should be returned to school on the following Wednesday. In the afternoon Mrs Moss will develop handwriting, teach French and music (recorders).

Our RE topic this term is Judaism and after half term, Christmas, with a focus on comparing the Christmas story from Mathew and Luke.

In computing we will be developing maze games using "scratch" and then writing instructions for others to use to make similar games and presenting these as multimedia presentations.

This term our science topic is forces. We will look at how forces can be balanced or unbalanced and look at gravity, friction, air and water resistance.

Outdoor PE this term will take place on Tuesdays and initially focus on developing running skills in preparation for cross country. We will be developing stamina and working on pacing ourselves. On Friday we will be swimming. Due to storage limitations in the cloakroom areas it would be helpful if PE kits could be placed in a drawstring bag.

Homework

Reading	Every night, if possible read or discuss reading with an adult or older sibling. Short comment writing 1-2 times a week in brown reading record.
Spelling and Grammar	Set on Friday, due in following Wednesday. Short written activity, spelling work or handwriting practice. Please use the purple homework book.
Maths	Please keep learning and practising times table and division facts and other mental maths strategies such as number bonds to 10, 20, 100 and 1000, doubling and halving and rounding. There will be a weekly times table test.
Other	There will also be a homework grid with a choice of activities. This will be set for several weeks and the date that it is due back in school will be printed on it.

Homework is also put on the VLE.

If possible, please keep reading and discussing books and stories with your children as I cannot over emphasise the importance of this. In addition to this if any of you or your family members would like to come in and listen to the children read it would be greatly appreciated by both myself and the children as they really enjoy having someone to listen to them. Please let me know if you would be able to help out with this.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss anything,

Kind regards,

Miss Meeson