



China Class Newsletter

Spring Term 2021



I hope you had a relaxing Christmas and a happy New Year to you all.

With the school now closed I wanted to keep you updated about what the children will be learning at home over the next few weeks and give you an idea of the timetable for subjects such as PE and Spanish should the school re-open at some point.

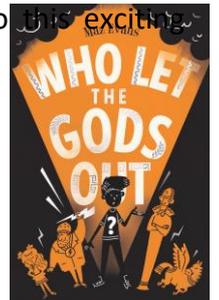
For the time being, one piece of English, Maths and topic work will be set on Google classrooms every day for the children to complete. There will also be a weekly video call with the class, so that the children can share the work they have been doing at home. Please ensure that you set up your own timetable that balances screen time with activities off-screen as well.

This term we are trying to provide you with learning that the children can easily access themselves. The aim is to mirror what the children would be learning in school, albeit delivered in a different format.

If you are struggling with any aspects of home learning, there is useful information and links on the school website. Details below:

https://www.st-marys-pulborough.w-sussex.sch.uk/website/remote_learning_january_2021/530193

This term our topic is 'The Ancient Greeks' where we will be learning about Gods, Goddesses, heroes, heroines and monsters! We will be becoming archaeologists and historians to delve into this exciting civilisation.



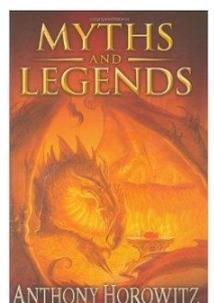
Important dates for China class:

- Inset Day – Friday 12th February
- Half Term – Monday 15th – Friday 19th February
- FairTrade Fortnight – Monday 22nd February
- World Book Day – Wednesday 3rd March
- Parents Evenings – Tuesday 17th March (3.30-6pm) and Thursday 19th March (3.30pm – 6pm)
- Red Nose Day – Friday 19th March
- Easter Eucharist – Thursday 1st April
- Last day of term – Thursday 1st April

English

We will begin our term by looking at 'Myths and Legends', a topic that is bound to inspire even the most reluctant writer! We will use the great Greek Myths of Perseus and Medusa, Theseus and the Minotaur, and others, to inspire us to write our own Greek myths.

Our key text this term will be 'Who Let The Gods Out?' by Maz Evans. We shall also be dipping into Anthony Horowitz's 'Myths and Legends' (please note that we will be referring to age-appropriate text from the Anthony Horowitz book...some of it isn't necessarily suited to a young person's ears). Spellings will be given out on a Monday and the children will be tested on the following Monday.



Reading logs – please continue to ensure you listen to, or monitor, your child reading three times per week and that this is signed and dated in their reading log. In Key Stage 2 we will encourage them to write in their reading logs as independently as possible. This will form an important part of my assessment for reading, and is a key dialogue between home and school. Children are requested NOT to bring books to school from the home during the pandemic. We have a wonderful library system up and running and whilst in school children will be selecting their own reading books which will remain in school. A procedure has been put in place to ensure books returned and borrowed from the library are sanitised properly. During lockdown, please read any books that you have at home and you can access MyOn to read remotely. If you are having problems with this, please let me know.

Weekly spellings – these will be scheduled on a Monday and tested the following Monday. Please ensure your children are practising their spellings at home each week. There are lots of fantastic apps which can help with this – Spelling Shed and Spelling Bee are recommended. I have also placed ‘Blooms Taxonomy’ spelling sheet onto our class page on the website which gives you lots of fun ideas on how to learn your spellings.

Maths

We will begin the term by looking at Division and Multiplication and Fractions, Decimals and Percentages. We will continue to focus very much on mental Maths, embedding our knowledge of times tables and their respective division facts. Once these are known, we will focus on applying this mental Maths knowledge to solving problems in real-life contexts. In school we are using ‘Times Tables Rockstars’ to help us with our times tables knowledge. All children should already have a username and login, if not please ask your child to obtain it. Any games for times tables would be beneficial, so please make sure you are practising. There are YouTube songs that could help that you could have playing as well.

My Maths, Accelerated Reader, MyOn and Purple Mash are also other websites the children can access to help with their learning.

Science

The first half term we will be learning about ‘Materials’. The children will continue to develop their investigative skills through both these units. The main focus for development this term will be making informed conclusions based on the results they gather through scientific investigation.



Computing

The children will have a fantastic opportunity this term looking at internet safety through Purple Mash.

R.E.

This half-term we will be considering the question, ‘What would Jesus Do?’ as we delve into the Gospels and accounts of Jesus from the New Testament. In the second half-term we will be contemplating the question, ‘What did Jesus do to save human beings?’ looking at Salvation in more depth.



Spanish

Spanish will continue to be taught to the children once a week on a **Friday** by Miss Bell. Miss Bell will also be sending out Spanish through Google Classroom.



Art/Music/Design Technology

This term all of our art, music and design technology teaching and learning will be included in general 'topic' sessions and will be inspired by the art, culture and music of the Ancient Greeks.

P.E.

We are posting challenges at this moment through Google Classroom – do make sure your child participates. When we are back at school, the children will have two P.E. sessions a week. The indoor P.E. lessons this term will be on a **Thursday**. I will be teaching Gymnastics and the outdoor P.E. session will now be on a **Friday** morning with Mrs Burbidge. We will be focusing on Hockey and Netball. Please remember that the correct P.E kit should be in school at all times and that children need to have plimsolls and outdoor kit, which should be warm for this time of year. No jewellery is to be worn, please ensure that all earrings are removed on P.E days if the children are not able to remove them themselves.

PSCHE

The children will be learning about keeping safe, managing risk and dealing with feelings.

Other Important Information

Allergies – we are a nut-free school. We politely request that you ensure your children does not bring nuts into school as a snack or in their packed lunches. This includes any food item that may contain nuts.

Written permission – written permission is required annually from you should your child be collected from school by an alternative adult, for example, someone who would be picking up your child from school on an ad-hoc basis. This includes other parents with whom your child may be going on a play date. We do not allow siblings under the age of 16 to collect from school without written request by you and acceptance from the school.

I hope this has been helpful. If you have any concerns please feel free to speak with me, ring the school on 01798 872007 to arrange an appointment at the school office. Or you can email me at china@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk

Any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mr Coomber