

## PE

We will be trying out something new this half-term, learning to play lacrosse. We will be working on throwing, passing and marking skills, and beginning to play small games. We will also continue to have swimming lessons every week.

## Computing

We have had great fun seeing programming 'do things' by using Micro:bits, and we will be continuing to explore the potential of these fab pieces of kit this term. We will use the MakeCode platform to extend our code to control motors, send messages and make music!

This half-term, we'll be learning about...



# GROOVY GREEKS

## FOXES - SPRING 2024

## Science

Space!  
We will continue to learn about the Earth, Sun, Moon and our place in the solar system. We will explore the way the Earth both revolves on its axis and orbits the sun, and the way that these movements create day, night, seasons and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky. We will also investigate how ideas about the solar system have changed over time.

## The Arts

Linking in with our history topic we will be making Greek vases. We will start by making the body of the vase from paper mache (wrapping around balloons), before adding spouts and handles. We will look carefully at the way that original vases were decorated (often with images from Greek myths) and then these use to inspire our own designs.

## Maths

We will begin the half-term by investigating measures. We will do lots of practical work to secure our understanding of what metres, kilograms, grams, litres and millilitres 'look' and 'feel' like. We will then focus on converting between units, using our knowledge of multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000. Drawing all of this together we will complete this topic by developing our problem solving skills, using jottings, drawings and bar models to support our work. Finally, we will round off the term by exploring percentages. We will start by linking these to our knowledge of fractions and decimals, and then begin to calculate percentages of numbers, measures and amounts.

## Humanities

We will be continuing our exploration of Ancient Greece, and learning about their Gods, wars, myths, clothes, theatre and governments. We will also be looking carefully at how this civilisation fits into the timeline of periods we already know about, and considering how Greek civilisation influenced those that followed (particularly the Romans), and how we still use Ancient Greek ideas (and words) today. We will also be exploring Greek Gods and myths, which will tie in with our work in English.

In RE, we will be developing an understanding of the Sikh faith, looking at its traditions, beliefs, history and practices. At the end of term we will also revise the Christian story of Christmas.

## English

We will begin the term by completing our *Myths with a twist* stories, which have seen 'ordinary' characters suddenly finding themselves thrown into the middle of Greek myths. Once we've finished writing, editing and evaluating these, we'll be moving on to look at discussion texts. We will be linking our work to our trip to the British Museum earlier this term, thinking about arguments for and against returning the Parthenon Marbles to Greece. We will look carefully at the way discussions are structured, the way that modal verbs (*could, might, will* etc.) are used to present arguments and the *cohesive* phrases that tie ideas together. Finally, we will write our own discussions, linked to topics important to us.



## PE

Keeping fit, happy and healthy is always important. There are links to lots of great resources and workouts to help everyone in the family get active at [www.sportengland.org/jointhemovement](http://www.sportengland.org/jointhemovement)

## Computing

- All of the tasks we've worked on in class are available at [microbit.org](http://microbit.org). There are links to the MakeCode editor we've been using, loads of ideas in the projects library and lots more information about these clever devices.

Ideas for supporting learning at home:



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## Science

- There are lessons online to support our next topic at: [classroom.thenational.academy/units/space-5857](http://classroom.thenational.academy/units/space-5857)
- Lots of Professor Brian Cox's fantastic TV programmes about space are available on [www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer](http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer) - his series on The Planets is full of solar system facts, and offers a great introduction for budding scientists.

## The Arts

Our Greeks topic is full of opportunities for home art projects - making vases, drawing pictures of Gods or creating costumes and shields. Great places to find ideas include: [activityvillage.co.uk/ancient-greece-crafts](http://activityvillage.co.uk/ancient-greece-crafts)  
[mysteriesintime.com/7-ancient-greek-project-ideas-to-try-today/](http://mysteriesintime.com/7-ancient-greek-project-ideas-to-try-today/)  
[bakerross.co.uk/craft-ideas/](http://bakerross.co.uk/craft-ideas/)

## Maths

As always, quick recall of tables facts is vital for many of the strategies we use, so it would be brilliant if you could work on this. Focus on one table at a time and try:

- Making-up rhymes to help remember number facts ("4 x 6 is 24, bears growl and lions roar!")
- Looking for numbers in that table in the world around you - on doors, car number plates, in phone numbers or when you're out shopping.
- Writing-out tables with finger paints, chalk or water-on-tarmac, or make them from playdoh.
- Chanting, singing, whispering... Say tables out loud together whenever you have the chance.

## English

- Constant practice of reading - and discussion of what's been read - is just about the most valuable thing you can do at home. Try to listen to your child as often as possible.
- Spelling homework goes out every Thursday, so please help your child to learn these. You can find more advice on supporting spelling at: [www.bedwell.herts.sch.uk/learning/spelling\\_strategies.pdf](http://www.bedwell.herts.sch.uk/learning/spelling_strategies.pdf)
- We're focussing on discussions, so keep a look out for any discussion texts you come across over the coming few weeks - anywhere where you're being given two sides of an argument (from articles on climate change to who should be player of the season). Which side is most convincing? Why?

## Humanities

- In history we are learning about the Ancient Greeks, which provides lots of opportunities for learning beyond the classroom - particularly linked to Greek Myths, which are full of amazing characters. There's lots of video and information to get you started available on BBC Bitesize at [www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z87tn39](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z87tn39)
- If you're up for a day out, we only saw a fraction of what the British Museum has to offer, and it's free for the whole family to visit.
- In RE, we will be talking about different religions and their beliefs, focussing in particular on Sikhism. The BBC Bitesize website has lots more great content here as well - to get started, head to [www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zsjpyrd](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zsjpyrd)