

Birch Class Spring Term 2020
Myths and Legends



Myths and Legends is an exciting topic that gives the children a chance to explore a variety of historical tales. There is a focus on Ancient Greek civilisation, looking in particular at what life was like at this time and comparing that to today's Greece. Children will also read other legends and myths from other cultures and explore what their purpose was at the time of writing and still is today.

As Mathematicians, children will further their knowledge of multiplication and division, working with increasingly large numbers and in a variety of different contexts. They will then move onto fractions, a big focus in Year 5, becoming confident to find and use equivalent fractions, mixed number fractions, ordering these and using them in real life problems. Children will start to learn about percentages and use this in work on data handling.



In English, children will explore the range of genres of writing and produce their own text to the best possible standard. They will work on writing descriptively and clearly and to adjust their style to suit the intended reader. Children will recap the full variety of descriptive writing techniques to fully engage their reader. Critical evaluation of their own and other's writing is regularly undertaken to appreciate what is effective. They will be immersed in high quality fiction texts that challenge them as readers and that provide writing opportunities with links to the topic, encouraging use of specialist vocabulary learnt in science and topic work. Children will continue to read daily and start to become more critical of what they are reading, discussing their texts with adults and peers. They will have spellings to work on each week and these will focus of the key Year 5/6 vocabulary and spelling patterns..



In Religious Education, children will complete a unit exploring what Hindus believe about the goal of life. They will learn about Krishna and Arjuna and talk about the different paths to moksha or God that Hindus believe in. Children will learn what Hindus find in Krishnas teachings to tell them about God.



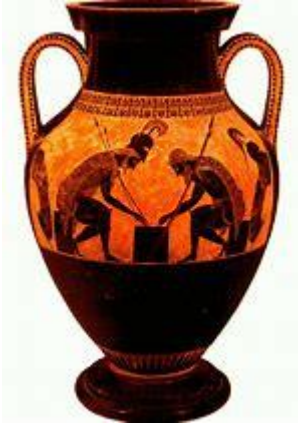
As Historians, children study Greek life and achievements and their influence on the western world. They will explore where this fits chronologically. They will note connections, contrasts and trends over time and will devise historically valid questions and change, cause, similarity and difference, and significance. They will understand how our knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources.

As Geographers, children will learn about the location of Greece, what its physical geography is like and how this impacted the human geography with respect to materials, resources and produce.



As Scientists, children will learn about forces. They will explore falling objects and raise questions about the effects of air resistance. They will experience forces that make things move, get faster or slow down. Children will explore the effects of levers, pulleys and simple machines on movement.

As Artists, children will work to discover what Ancient Greek art was like, create our own designs and models and explore what impact it has had on art and architecture today. We will be working with clay and exploring how Ancient Gree decoration evolved over time.



As designers, children will go through the complete design process of design, make and evaluate their own Greek temples. They will make choices about the type of materials, effective ways of connecting these to make strong and stable structures.

As Musicians, children will learn to sing in a variety of styles, identifying the differences and purposes of each. They will explore how to memorise lyrics, how to rap and how music can evoke emotions for the listener.



In Computing, children will learn how to use search technologies effectively and safely. They will explore how these searches are selected and ranked, using this information to improve the research that they are able to undertake. Children will use suitable software to create an interactive book and a way of collecting and analysing data about gods and mythical creatures.

In PSHCE, children will learn what it means to play an active, positive role within a community with string reference to our Rights Respecting School ethos.

In Physical Education, children will be exploring Ancient Greece through dance. This will culminate in a multi school festival later in the term. They will also be learning some team games with an emphasis on hockey, working on ball control and how to invade and defend.



Homework

This term I am setting ongoing homework. If the class could spend at least 15 minutes three times a week on the programs, it will be beneficial:

- 1) Prodigy – this is a maths learning program. Their character levels up as they progress. To do this they are asked questions from the different area of maths. Every week I set specific areas that they need to practice from learning we have covered in class. The program feeds back to me, showing the progress that each child is making. If they are finding particular areas difficult, it makes it a little easier for them. They also are encouraged to come in and ask me.
- 2) Read Theory – this is a similar idea but with reading as a focus. Again, the children are reading a range of texts and answering questions about these. It also adapts the difficulty of the text to the level of the reader.