

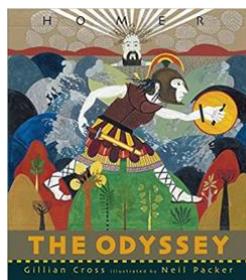
Year Five Spring Term 2023

Happy New Year and welcome to the spring term!

The Year Five team is Miss Clifford, Miss Dixon and Debbie. Miss Clifford will teach on Monday – Wednesday and Miss Dixon on Thursday and Friday. Miss Sherif will also be working with us for the first half of the spring term.

This handout should provide you with all the details for the term ahead and we hope that it is useful. If you do have any worries or concerns, please feel free to catch us in the playground or contact the office to pass on a message and / or book an appointment.

Writing



We will begin this term with the book, *The Odyssey*, which links perfectly with our history topic of Ancient Greece. This illustrated story takes children on an adventure with the greatest of heroes - Odysseus - as he battles great monsters, gods and mortals on his voyage home to Ithaca. Through the sequence children discover multiple reasons to make a speech: to make a proclamation, for persuasive purposes, and for personal reflection. They will write in role as Odysseus himself, as well as record dialogue and their own take on a key scene in the style of the author. They will complete the sequence by writing their own epic adventure story based on their own

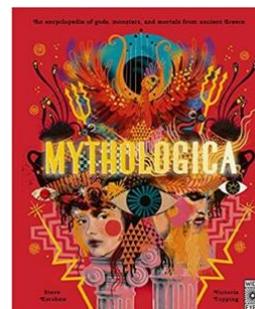
invented character who encounters multiple trials on their journey home.

They will also be taught the skills of editing to correct, improve and refine their work, and practise using a dictionary to check and amend spellings.

Reading

During Guided Reading lessons, children continue to build on the eight reading comprehension skills (a copy of which can be found in your child's reading journal) through discussion, key questioning and follow-up tasks.

We will begin the half-term with a beautifully illustrated text titled *Mythologica*. This book has been chosen as it again links to our study of Greek Myths as part of our historical study of Ancient Greece. We will uncover the colourful lives of 50 powerful gods and goddesses, earth-dwelling mortals and terrifying monsters.



As well as reading daily in school, it is important that your child is also reading daily at home and we will be keeping track of their reading records to encourage them to use these as a way of recording their own thoughts on their book choices. We also ask that you comment at least once a week, but more if you are able. Reading records must be in school each day but will be collected in on Wednesday.

Being in upper Key Stage Two, we want children to become critical readers and to be this, they need to read widely. We provide strong and varied book choices in the teaching of reading and writing, from non-fiction, poetry, picture books and novels but please have a look at our class page on the school website for a list of recommended reads suited to Year Five.

Topical Talk

Topical Talk is a programme from the Economist Educational Foundation which supports discussions about current affairs. For children in Years Five and Six, we hold regular lessons where they explore a current story in the headlines. The activities foster progress in listening, speaking, problem-solving and creativity skills.

The following skills will be embedded in all content and activities:



At points in the year, children will have access to the online hub to take their conversations beyond the classroom. Please be assured that we speak with the children regularly about how to keep safe online. Posts and comments will only be added to the hub if approved by a member of the Topical Talk team. Any concerns and teachers will be contacted.

Maths

We follow the *Maths - No Problem!* scheme for the teaching of maths at Boutcher. We will start the term with applying all four operations in our word problems topic, before moving on to focus on fractions, decimals and percentages.

To confidently and accurately access the Year 5 maths curriculum, it is necessary that all children have quick recall of their times tables up to 12 x 12 and the corresponding division facts. This is an expectation by the end of Year 4. Each child has a login to Times Tables Rock Stars and this is a fun way for children to polish up on their times tables if they are weak in areas (or to continue with quick recall if not!) Although there will be some time given to this in school, this is part of their homework and it is expected that they complete at least 25 minutes each week. Children are welcome to come to school early on Wednesday morning at 8am for extra time to brush up on their times tables. If your child does not already attend and you would like them to, please ask Miss Clifford for a permission letter.

If you are unsure how methods are being taught in school or of how written methods should be laid out, please check the *Maths Methods Handbook*, which is available on the school website.

Science

The first science topic of the spring term is *Living Things and Their Habitats*. In this topic, children will describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals including mammals and they will describe the differences in the life cycles of an amphibian and an insect by exploring complete and incomplete metamorphosis.

In our next topic, children will learn about *forces* and this will include gravity, air resistance, water resistance and friction and they will have the chance to create their own simple mechanism too. There will be plenty of opportunities for them to test and carry out fair investigations during lessons.

Religious Education

The first RE topic for the spring term answers the question: *How does Holy Communion build a Christian community?* This question will be broken down into weekly lessons and will cover the following points:

- what Jesus said and did about Communion and how Christians remember this;
- how and why Christians share in the Body and Blood of Jesus;
- how the act of sharing Communion demonstrates God's Peace;
- the legacy of Jesus and how it may help Christians today in their legacy.

The second RE topic for the spring term will be *Understanding Faith in Bermondsey*. Through this unit, they will learn:

- about the faiths and beliefs in class, the school and the local community;
- how faith and belief communities in Bermondsey have changed over the past 50 years and the reasons for these changes;
- how faith groups work in partnership with each other and the local community;
- how life in Bermondsey has been enriched by the diversity of the faiths and beliefs that make up the borough.

Theme

Year 5 will be learning about Ancient Greece this term. This will be an exciting topic, which I know they are looking forward to! Throughout this topic, they will build on their knowledge of empires, learn more about daily life there, make some comparisons between life in Athens and life in Sparta and know that the Olympic Games is one example of a legacy of Ancient Greece. They will also be learning about the beliefs of the ancient Greeks during their reading and writing lessons.

In Geography, they will do a comparative study between two contrasting locations.

In art this term, children will learn more about the artist Van Gogh and explore his works. They will use their sketch books to improve their mastery of art and design techniques, with focus on painting.

Computing

We will use *code.org* to teach the computing curriculum.

Music

Year Five will receive a weekly violin lesson taught by music specialist, Luke.

If your child is in the choir, this is on a Thursday after school.

PE

Year Five will have a PE lesson on Thursday and the Boutcher Mile on Friday. The children are to come to school wearing their PE kit on Thursday and have their trainers available on Friday.

PSHE

At Boutcher School, we teach Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) and relationships as a whole-school approach to underpin children's development as people and because we believe that this also supports their learning capacity. We use the Jigsaw Programme which offers us a comprehensive, carefully thought-through scheme of work which brings consistency and progression to our children's learning in this vital curriculum area. The Curriculum map can be found on the school website but Year 5 will be covering the following topics during the spring term.

Dreams and Goals (spring 1)



Healthy Me (spring 2)



Spanish

Spanish lessons will be taught each fortnight by a teacher from St Saviours, who will then provide a follow-up lesson to be taught the next week. They will learn vocabulary through rhymes, singing, games, discussion and some written work.

Services

This year, our theme is signs, symbols and wonders. Throughout this term we will be looking at the signs that point us to Jesus in the New Testament. We will develop our understanding of some of the most loved and well-known stories, looking at them through a new lens, whilst drawing practical lessons that we can apply in our own lives.

Homework

Children will receive homework on Wednesday, with the first set of homework being set on Wednesday 4th January.

In Year Five, weekly homework is:

- daily reading (with three responses in reading journal and one from adult each week)
- comprehension x 1
- ten spellings words and sentences plus a Readwriter activity
- Times Tables Rock Stars (minimum of 25 minutes spent each week)

All homework needs to be completed for Wednesday morning. Please upload the spelling sentences to Google Classroom to be marked. The comprehension book should be brought into school for Wednesday to be marked in class.

Children will be tested on their spellings each Wednesday and their score will be recorded in their reading journal.

Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 18th January – Admission to Holy Communion classes begin

Tuesday 24th January – Year 5 trip to The Houses of Parliament

Friday 3rd February – Year Five leading service

Friday 3rd March - Year Five leading service

Friday 24th March – Admission to Holy Communion Service

Friday 31st March – Easter Service at St Marys led by Year Five

Many thanks for your support.

The Year Five Team