

# Autumn 2020 – Termly Topic Update

September 2020

We hope you have had a lovely summer and are looking forward to all the exciting things we have planned as your child begins Year 5 at Abbots Green.

Year 5 marks the beginning of Upper Key Stage 2 which means there are a few changes in store for your child! They will have the opportunity to walk to and home from school independently, have a school planner, be upstairs and be able to bring their mobile phone for safety reasons when walking to and home from school. Mobile phones will need to be turned off before they enter the building, likewise they should not be turned on until they have left the school site. The mobile phones will be kept in a sealed bag within a box locked in the cupboard during the day.

This term, we will be focusing on our 'Star Gazing' topic. Within this, the children will be fully immersed in Ancient Greece in History and focus on Forces and Earth and Space in Science. The children will become experts in our spectacular solar system! In Art, they will learn explore Ancient Greek architecture and have the opportunity to model clay Greek vases, we will then engrave patterns.



## English

Hold onto your hats! During the first half term year 5 are writing adventure stories. Our inspiration has come from the story of 'The Terrible Thing That Happened to Barnaby Rooker'. Ask your children to tell you about Barnaby's adventure! In the second half of term, children will be writing to inform, exploring the genre of explanation texts linked to our science.

A new spelling rule will be taught each week and spellings related to each rule will be provided on a half-termly spelling sheet. Please encourage them to practise these throughout the week. Children will be responsible for independently changing books and recording what they have read in their planners. Adult-led group reading activities are timetabled weekly.

## Maths

This term, children will be learning and consolidating their understanding of number (place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) through a range of written methods, problem solving and practical exercises. The aim is for children to be able to apply different Maths in a range of contexts. Also this term, children will be creating and interpreting statistical data and learning about perimeter and area. Children's knowledge and practising of times tables will be significant again this year.

Later this year, the children will begin weekly arithmetic tests. These will help to prepare your children for Year 6. We will help support your child in achieving their best scores.

## Rainbow Challenges



Research and then write about an Ancient Greek God or Goddess.

Investigate how many miles it is to travel to each planet from Earth. Can you convert it to kilometres?

Design a football skill based activity for a small group to take part in. Remember to write down the skill you are focusing on and to draw a diagram

Have you ever read any Greek mythology? Now is your chance!

Draw a Greek inspired landscape. This might include architectural or natural features.

Write a diary entry as an astronaut of your choice!

Feel free to share these soon through your new Showbie classroom!

## Home learning

Children will have a new set of spellings to learn every week related to the spelling rule being taught in class. These will be tested on Mondays within sentences.

It is expected that children will read at home and this will need to be signed in their planners by an adult at home a minimum of 3 times a week. Reading will equal rewards! Children who are unable to complete this will be encouraged to stay in with an adult at lunchtime for 10 minutes reading.

Each week your child will be set a Maths and English task to complete at home. This task will be related to the learning in the classroom. Both pieces will be set on Fridays and due in on Wednesdays.

## PE

On PE days, children must come into school in their PE kits as opposed to getting changed in school. PE days are Mondays and Fridays. Our focuses will be athletics and football. Please ensure your child is dressed for the weather as PE will be outside. Long hair must be tied up and earrings need to be removed for safety reasons. If a child comes in wearing earrings they will not be allowed to take part. We will also be completing the daily mile each day.

## Year 5 Staff

**Miss Thurlow**  
Norway Class Teacher

**Mrs Adjaye**  
Russia Class Teacher  
*Monday, Tuesday, Thursday  
and Friday*

**Mrs Tarling**  
Russia Class Teacher  
*Wednesdays only*

**Mrs Loker-Steele**  
Year 5 LSA

**Mrs Trueman**  
Year 5 LSA

As we start a new school term, we are keen to share dates for the year ahead. We aim to be as creative as possible to ensure that we share your child's learning experiences with you in a safe way.

Initially, instead of cancelling dates, we will be choosing to inform you of upcoming dates and details as soon as we can confirm more.

## Autumn Term Key Dates Half Term

Week beginning 26<sup>th</sup> October  
2020

**Ancient Greek Day!** Wednesday  
14<sup>th</sup> October 2020

*On Ancient Greek day, we will celebrate and expand our learning on the Ancient Greeks. We will fully immerse ourselves in Greek culture – the food, art, fashion and architecture! We would love for you to join us in Ancient Greek outfits!*

**Launch Day!** Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>  
November 2020

*Launch day is lift off for our Space learning in Science! It is going to be out of this world! You are not required to dress up for this day.*