**Ouse Class Curriculum Letter Summer 2023**

Dear Parents,

A big welcome back to everyone in Ouse Class! I hope everyone had a nice rest after their hard work during the Spring Term and had an enjoyable Easter break! It’s hard to believe we are already in the Summer Term, with lots to look forward to, including our end of year production which will be announced at the end of SATs week!

**English**

This term we will be linking our English work to our topic of ‘Gods and Mortals’ and so throughout the term, we will focus in on key events, beliefs and stories from Ancient Greece to inspire different types of writing. We will learn about and write character profiles for the Ancient Greek gods and goddesses, focusing on using expanded noun phrases, similes and metaphors to make our descriptions engaging for the reader. We will read the myth of Icarus ad Daedalus, using it as inspiration for diary entries. We will use the story of ‘The Trojan Horse’ to inspire our instruction writing this term and the Myth of ‘Theseus and the Minotaur’ will inspire our letter writing.

Throughout the term we will also be reading our class novel ‘Atticus and the Ancient Greeks’, a story in which a modern-day boy finds himself on a mysterious island with key figures from Ancient Greece.

Through our Grammar sessions this term the children will be focusing on paragraphs, different types of nouns and using Standard English correctly. They will also learn how to identify determiners and word families.

Children will continue to cover Spelling and phonics (where applicable) in discrete lessons. **Spelling tests will be on a Friday.** Please make sure you child has their yellow spelling book in school on this day, as we complete our tests in the back.

**Maths**

Maths this term will begin by continuing with our topic of fractions and decimals. Children will focus on adding and subtracting fractions, calculating fractions of a quantity and ordering, comparing and rounding decimals, before moving on to the topic of ‘Measurement’. In this topic we will cover length and perimeter, money and time. As time can often be a tricky unit for some children to get their heads around, I ask that you practise telling the time on an analogue clock as much as possible at home in order to develop a solid foundation which the children can build upon during their lessons in school.  After half term, we will cover the units of Statistics and Geometry. In Statistics we will be building upon the children’s understanding of pictograms, tables and bar charts to read, interpret and record information and Year 4 children will also study line graphs. Geometry sees the children identifying properties of 2D and 3D shapes as well as exploring angles, lines and symmetry.

**A date for your diaries** – please note that Year 4 children will complete their Statutory Multiplication Tables Check on the morning of **6th June.** We will continue to practise times tables in school, although I would recommend Year 4 use TT Rockstars and the ‘Soundcheck’ feature for further practise at home.

**Topic**

We will begin this term by rounding off our previous topic of ‘Road Trip USA’, before moving on to our new topic that we will cover throughout the Summer term, ‘Gods and Mortals’. This topic will see us become familiar with Zeus, Apollo and the other gods who reign from Mount Olympus. We’ll explore the land of Greece, where the sun scorches the wings of Icarus and Helen of Troy inspires the launch of a thousand ships. Using historical source materials, we’ll research daily life in ancient Greece, and create a timeline to show the chronology of ancient events. In D&T, we’ll work in groups to design and make wings, just like Daedalus, and on maps of Greece, we’ll plot the journeys made by ancient Greek characters. In art, we will sketch scenes from ancient Greek pots.

As we move into the second half of this term, our focus in KS2 will turn increasingly to our end of year production. In addition to this, our focus towards the end of term will also be on conducting a local history study, where we will explore the history of our market town of Malton and the surrounding countryside.

Throughout the term, the children will continue to develop their sewing skills with Mrs C on some Monday afternoons. If anyone is free in the latter half of this term to help with sewing on Monday afternoons, please get in touch as any help would be greatly appreciated.

**Science**

Mrs Huntriss will continue to teach Science on Tuesday afternoons. The focus of the sessions this term will be ‘Living things and their habitats’ where children will learn how to: recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways; and explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment.  In the second half of the term, the topic will continue, but this time with a focus on conservation. Through their lessons, children will learn how to recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.

**Computing**

Our first Computing topic for this half term will be ‘Touch Typing’ and will see the children learn how to improve and develop their typing skills. We will then move onto ‘Branching Databases’ where children will learn how to use Purple Mash software to create binary trees. As we move into our final half term, our topics will be ‘Simulations’, where the children will explore, analyse and evaluate simulations on Purple Mash and then ‘Graphing’, which will be cross curricular with our Maths sessions at the time.

**RE** is on a Thursday afternoon and our topic throughout this term will focus on the question ‘What can we learn from religions about right and wrong?’

**PSHE** with Mrs Bowman on a Wednesday afternoon will focus on ‘Becoming an Active Citizen’ in the first half term, and ‘Moving on’ in the second half term.

**PE** will be on **Thursdays** with Mr Cairns and **Fridays** with Mr Walker. Please make sure children have their PE kit in school on these days.

**French –** Children will continue to learn French with Madame Conroy and I on Friday afternoons throughout the year. Our first topic will be called ‘Au Cafe’ and will focus on how or order a variety of foods in French. This topic will culminate in us having our very own French Café, before we begin our next topic ‘Les Romains’ in the second half term. This unit will see the children discuss key facts about the Roman Empire in French.

**Homework –** Children will receive homework on a Friday and it should be brought back into school on a Wednesday, unless it is a Topic homework, which children have 2 weeks to complete. Children who do not bring homework to school on time will complete it during Wednesday lunchtime.

Sometimes Maths homework will be set on **Mathletics.** Children can find the log in for this at the front of their Reading Records. They are encouraged to complete any additional Mathletics tasks set in their own time to improve their maths fluency.

If you have anything you would like to discuss, please feel free to contact me at the class email address [ouseclass@langton.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:ouseclass@langton.n-yorks.sch.uk) .

Kind Regards

Mrs R. Dale