



Bratton Primary School

Engagement - Resilience - Integrity

Headteacher: Mr Ian Bolton

T: 01380 830511

E: admin@bratton.wilts.sch.uk

W: www.bratton.wilts.sch.uk

Welcome back to a new term! I enjoyed getting to know the children as people and as learners last term, and I now look forward to seeing how they develop in the upcoming term.

This term, our topic is going to stay the same: Ancient Greece. We have learned a great deal about the Geography and History of Ancient Greece, but there are still so many areas that we have not yet covered, therefore, we are going to explore these for the next few weeks. Within topic lessons, we will investigate the Trojan War, by understanding the events through our writing and drama and we will link this to our English lessons in order to produce a newspaper report. In addition, we will investigate Greeks at war by looking at the Battle of Marathon and The Peloponnesian War (Athens vs. Sparta), encouraging the children to refer back to their knowledge about the two city-states. To understand the wars further, we will look at the types of government within the differing cities of Ancient Greece by identifying the advantages and disadvantages of each and to think about how the citizens would have felt under these contrasting forms of power. Furthermore, as it will be coming up to Christmas we will devote a few lessons to learn about the toys and lifestyle that the children in Ancient Greece would have had and how these are different to what we have today.

Within our maths lessons, we are going to focus on developing our multiplication and division skills by building on from the formal written methods and using them to solve different calculations, including word problems. Year 4s are going to continue developing their times table knowledge of the 6, 7 and 9 table facts and finding factor pairs by learning about what factors are and how they multiply with another factor to create a number. Also, we are going to look at multiplying and dividing numbers by 0, 1, 10 and 100 and this will be extended to 1000 for Year 5 pupils. Children in year 5 will be developing these skills and will also be learning how to use factors to identify common factors between two numbers and linking this knowledge to understand what a prime number is. Square numbers and cube numbers will also be identified. After that, we will look at length, perimeter and area, focusing on Year 4 and Year 5 specific skills in this area.

In English, we are going to be linking our writing genres to our Topic lessons. As mentioned above, we are going to write a newspaper report on the Trojan War before moving on to recognising the features of a biography. We will explore what a biography is and how we could write one to learn about the life of Alexander the Great. In addition, we will create an advertising poster, by looking at persuasive techniques to sell a product, to be able to advertise a toy that children would have played with in Ancient Greece.

Guided reading sessions continue to be a focus; spending time on developing the children's reading techniques, exploring texts, developing our vocabulary and comprehension skills. Continuing to follow this focus on exploring texts up when reading at home, discussing the pieces the children read will be really beneficial, as it will further enhance their skills. Thank you for the work you have already done on this.

Our science topic this term is Sound. We have already looked at what sound is and how it can be heard; this will be explored further by testing different objects and changing their pitch and volume to see how this affects the sound they produce.

Within computing, we will be developing our word processing skills by using Microsoft Word to create an 'everything you need to know' information poster about Ancient Greece. We will investigate the programme to know how to change the font, insert a text box, format images and create tables.

For Art/ DT, we are going to complete our Greek vases by adding detail, using paint, paying close attention to how people decorated their vases in Ancient Greece and what the images represented. In addition, we will be creating art linked to Christmas and will be thinking about what we would like to make for the Christmas fair.

PE will continue to be taught every Wednesday by the sport coaches and **swimming** will take place on Thursday afternoon. Please ensure the children bring in the full, correct and named PE and swimming kit into school on these days, also please check that it is returned if used at any after school clubs.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or queries. I am available for a chat afterschool, in person or by phone, and I am always happy to make appointments for further discussions.

We look forward to the upcoming weeks.

Kind regards,

Miss Kirsty McMillan, Mrs Sarah Smith, Mrs Kim Harvey and Miss Nicola Shaw
Antelope team

