



Bratton Primary School

Engagement - Resilience - Integrity

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Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to a new school year and to Antelopes class! Being new to the school it is an exciting time for me to get to know the children and explore their potential. I am really looking forward to working with your children to develop confidence and competence across the curriculum. This letter will outline the topics that will be covered in Autumn Term 1, as we challenge and engage the children with the curriculum.

Within Maths this term, we will begin with a focus on place value by rounding numbers and building our familiarity with how numbers can be represented. This will be followed by adding and subtracting numbers using the formal written methods. A continual target throughout the term will be to develop confidence with times tables and mental maths, as this is a key objective for Year 4/5 pupils. This will also support the children with multiplication and division methods that will be covered later in the term.

Our topic this term will be Ancient Greece; the children have already displayed knowledge and enthusiasm for the topic, as we have looked at where Greece is and what artefacts tell us about how they lived. This topic will continue on as we look at daily life in Greece and the Greek civilisation. The children will explore Ancient Greece's art and architecture through observations and some practical lessons of creating a 2D clay vase with Greek decoration and symbols. In addition, we will discuss the beliefs the Greeks had in relation to their gods and goddesses, which will feed into the writing of the children's own Greek myth.

In English, the children will begin by using their knowledge of Greek lives to write a diary entry, followed by a debate and persuasive writing to argue why either Athens or Sparta was the best city state. We will continue to develop spelling, punctuation and grammar during our guided reading and as a part of every English lesson. The Big Write session will take place on alternate Fridays, with talk homework being sent home the day the day before to prepare.

Reading with a member of the Antelopes team will be completed regularly and reading records will be checked and signed, so we please ask that you continue to read with the children at home as much as possible and discussing what they have read. In addition, reading skills and comprehension will be focused on and further developed during guided reading sessions which will take place every day.

Within our science lessons this term, the focus will be 'States of Matter'. This involves defining solids, liquids and gases', grouping materials and observing how we cause some materials to change state. We will work scientifically to decide on the best material for the Greeks to use to build their statues, to ensure they will not be affected by the sun's heat.

During our computing lessons, e-safety will be our focus, ensuring the children use the internet effectively and safely. This will support us in completing research for our Ancient Greece topic. The children will discuss how

to stay safe and be responsible when online. In addition, the children will design a program with Scratch to create their own quiz.

Within RE, we will be focusing on the bible as a holy book, what it is and why Christians use the Bible. This will lead to open discussions and understanding of the Christian belief system. During Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE), responsibility will be discussed in relation to the children's own behaviour and how they can become better learners. The 4 R's, resilience, resourcefulness, reciprocity and reflection, will be an on-going focus to ensure the children apply this growth mind-set to the upcoming year.

The children will be taught PE every Wednesday with the PE coach, with Miss Wozniak, and on Thursday afternoon with Miss McMillan. This term the children will be doing Football on Wednesday and Netball on Thursday. Please ensure the children bring in the full, correct and named PE kit in school, checking that it is returned if used at any school clubs.

Maths and/or English homework will be set every Thursday, to be handed in by the following Tuesday. There will also be a short talking homework every other Thursday, in preparation for the Big Write, which will take place the next day.

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 a great first term ahead.

Kind regards,

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