



# YEAR 5

## Autumn Term Newsletter 2025

What a great start to the autumn term. It's been lovely seeing all the children ready for the term ahead and seeing how quickly they're settling back in.

The children are excited about the term ahead, especially for our first topic - the ancient Greeks. We've been really impressed by their prior knowledge of mythical creature and how they've applied this to the lessons. To broaden the children's learning experiences, we have several exciting trips and workshops planned to give variety into our exciting curriculum.

To support your child and the school this year, we kindly ask for your continued support to ensure that the children are organised for their learning by being on time for school and wearing the appropriate uniform, including wearing their PE kit on Mondays and Fridays. If you have any queries or concerns you can contact the Year 5 team on the following email address: [y5@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:y5@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk) and we will respond within a 2 day working period.

Meet the Y5 team!



Ms Gayer (Year Group Lead)



Mr Sloan



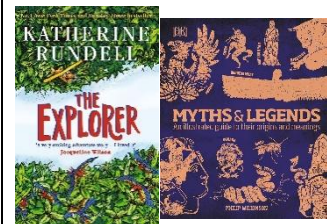
### Topic

Our topic this term is 'Ancient Greece'. The children will be learning about the rise and fall of the Greek Empire, the difference between Spartans and Athenians, daily life for women, men and children, democracy, religious beliefs, Greek gods, the Olympics and the impact of Greek culture on the modern world. The children will be given opportunities to further develop their skills using an atlas and also develop their use of geographical knowledge to enhance their locational and place knowledge.



### Maths

In Maths this term, the children will be deepening their understanding of place value by adding and subtracting whole numbers with more than 4 digits, using estimating and rounding to check the accuracy of their answers. They will be reading, writing and comparing numbers up to 1,000,000, counting back and forth from any given number in multiples of 10, 100, 1000. They will also focus on multiplying and dividing up to 4-digit numbers by 2 digit numbers, using the most efficient methods. During each lesson, the children will be using the skills they have learnt, and apply them to solve reasoning problems. There will be lots of opportunities for children to use concrete resources to help aid their understanding.



### English

We are kicking off our English writing this year with *Myths and Legends*. The children will explore a variety of mythical stories and use them as inspiration to create their very own myths. Later in the term, we will focus on writing a dramatic story opener based on one of my favourite books – *The Explorer* by Katherine Rundell. Following that, the children will move on to writing a non-fiction explanation text, and we will finish the term with a delightful poetry unit on odes.

### Routines and Reminders

**PE days** – PE will be on a Mondays and Wednesdays this will be with either one of the class teachers or with a specialist coach. During Autumn 1 the children will have a specialist coach who will be teaching them Handball on the Monday and then on the Friday's their class teacher will be teaching the lesson, recapping and developing the skills they learnt on Monday. Children should come to school in their school tracksuit, a white t-shirt and black trainers (if you do not have a school tracksuit please make sure the children are wearing plain black or navy sportswear and not fashioned tracksuit).

Earrings are studs only. Other jewellery, hair bows and nail varnish should not be worn. If hair is longer than shoulder length, it should always be tied up for all children.

### Homework

**Weekly spellings:** These can be found on the school website (under the main heading Curriculum and Assessment and drop down to English) and the children will be tested every Friday.

**Daily reading:** We ask that all children read for 20-30 minutes daily. This will have a huge impact on their learning across the curriculum. Please encourage your child to read a variety of genres and include non-fiction texts. Reading with your child, or asking comprehension questions on the texts they have read is also another good way to boost their skills.

**Times Tables Rock Stars:** 10 minutes a week (but please feel free to encourage your child to do more if they want to!).

**Topic Project:** As part of our Ancient Greece topic, we would like the children to design and create a Greek Temple. You can be as creative as you wish (pictures, 3D sculptures, temples created on Minecraft)! **Please bring in your project's week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> December.**

### What else will be happening in the Curriculum?

#### RE

During our RE lessons this term, we will be focussing on Islam.

#### PSHE

As part of our PSHE topic, we will be looking at Being a Citizen and Cultural Differences. We will also focus on relevant school issues such as friendship.

#### Art

In Art, we will be drawing from the master, Leonardo.

#### Music

The music lessons will involve developing the children's knowledge of pitch, using the huge variety of pitched percussion in the music room. They will be practicing their reading from graphic scores and standard notation, and will incorporate layering of sounds (musical texture) in a group setting.

#### Spanish

Autumn 1: All about me

Autumn 2: The way we look

#### Science

Autumn 1: Forces

Autumn 2: Space and Global Warming

#### Computing

Our computing lessons will cover computing systems and networks and creating media – video production and online safety.

### How to help your child

- Every week your child will be sent home spellings. It is important that you learn these with your child as they will be tested on Fridays.
- It is important that you read with your child daily, asking them comprehension questions to further develop their understanding of the characters or plot. It is also a great idea to point out exciting vocabulary or phrases and create a word bank so they can use this within their own writing.
- Please access Times Tables Rock Stars where there will be having TT Rock Star competitions where we will compete against other Year 5 classes and occasionally Year 6!