



YEAR 5

Autumn Term Newsletter 2026

WELCOME BACK!

We hope you have had a lovely summer break and are excited as us about the term ahead, especially for our first topic - the ancient Greeks. We have lots of exciting things planned, to broaden the children's learning experiences, from several exciting trips and workshops planned to special PE lessons and events across the school. It will be a jam-packed fun, exciting autumn term which we know the children will love.

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 Thursdays.

If you have any queries, you can contact the Year 5 team on the following email address:
y5@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk

Meet the Y5 team!



Mr Sloan



Ms Curtis
Year Group Lead



Miss Bourdillon



Mrs Orekie

Miss Brown

Uniform

Our school uniform consists of:

- grey skirts, culottes, trousers or shorts (no leggings or cycling shorts).
- royal blue or yellow polo shirt, sweatshirt or fleece with or without the school logo.
- children may wear blue or yellow check summer dresses.
- all pupils must wear black shoes or all black trainers.

Our PE uniform consists of:

Navy blue or black shorts (no cycling shorts), white T-shirt, trainers or plimsolls and a plain navy blue/black tracksuit for outdoors PE (not a fashion tracksuit).

Earrings must be studs only; no other jewellery is allowed (including friendship bracelets) or nail varnish should be worn. Hair that is longer than shoulder length must always be tied back.

Routines and Reminders

PE days – PE will be on a Mondays and Thursday 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 Thursdays with their class teacher will be teaching the lesson, recapping and developing the skills they learnt on Monday.



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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.



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.



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 using our sketchbooks to develop our collage skills.

Music

We are thrilled to partner with Junior Jam to bring high-quality, energetic music sessions to our Key Stage 2 students! Our curriculum is designed to build confidence, teamwork, and a lifelong love for music.

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.

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 3 times 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 16th November for Curriculum Week**

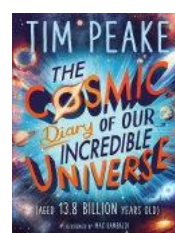
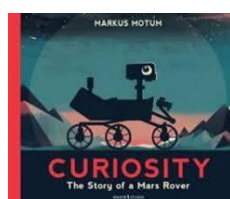
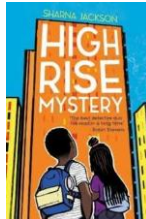
How to help your child

- 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 work 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!

Educational Enrichment in Y3 this term:

This term we have some wonderful workshops in school and out of school planned so check out the Programme of Events!

Love reading, we recommend these reads that compliment our Autumn curriculum!



Autumn Term's Curriculum Week

Date: Week beginning November 16th

Dress Up Day: 17th November

Note – Topic Project due. See above for information!

If you would like to donate your outfit after the event, please feel free to give it to your class teacher. It will be recycled for next year to reduce landfill and support our Eco-Warriors on their drive for a **greener school**.

Calling All Citizens of Athens and Sparta! Our Ancient Greece Day is Coming... 🏛️

Sharpen your quills and prepare to philosophize! We are turning back the clock thousands of years to explore the wonders of the ancient world. To help create an immersive experience, we are asking children to arrive at school dressed as an **ancient Greek citizen, philosopher, Olympian, God, or goddess**.

There is no need to hunt down store-bought costumes! An old white or cream adult t-shirt or bedsheet can easily be transformed into a classic Greek chiton or toga. Simply drape it over the shoulder and secure it with a safety pin, tying it at the waist with a piece of rope or a gold ribbon. Throw on some sandals, add a homemade cardboard laurel wreath for the hair, and your child is ready for the Agora!

We cannot wait to see their creative historical outfits! Please ensure **no sharp or hard toy weapons** (such as plastic swords or spears) are brought into school. Thank you for your support in making history come alive!

