

The Romans

Literacy

The children will be learning about the life, and death of Julius Caesar. They will be writing about his life, but also, they will be writing about his character. They will be his guides—giving him advice about whether or not to ‘cross the Rubicon’, and they will be reporters, writing for a newspaper about his funeral.

Their targets this term are using the correct pronoun with the correct noun; learning how to use complicated conjunction words (although, however, while...); using interesting, and subject specific vocabulary (e.g. a fully equipped legionary); and similes. As well as still using their targets from term 1! We will be performing a play in term 3.

Spelling and handwriting are high priority for Year 3 and 4 this whole academic year, and spellings will be sent home for your child to learn on a regular basis. **ALL WRITING THIS TERM IS EXPECTED TO BE NEATLY JOINED. EVEN HOMEWORK WRITING.**

Guided Reading

Every week, your child will participate in a carousel of reading activities based around a text (part of a story, or non-fiction). They will be using dictionaries to find the meanings of unfamiliar words, they will be answering comprehension questions and they will be reading the chosen text with the teacher and discussing their answers.

History

“Pupils should ask perceptive questions, think critically, weigh evidence, sift arguments, and develop perspective and judgement. History helps pupils to understand the complexity of people’s lives, the process of change, the diversity of societies and relationships between different groups.” - History curriculum. The children will consider—How effective was the Roman Army? They will learn about the life of soldiers in the army, how they were taught to fight strategically; how they spent their leisure time and what they did upon leaving the army.

The children will also study the life of a famous Roman—Julius Caesar.

We have a Roman visitor for a day on Tuesday 2nd November and we are visiting Caerleon—an ancient Roman town, towards the end of January (term 3).

Design Technology/Art

This term, and carrying forward to term 3, we are making model chariots with dowelling, glue, and cardboard. The children will be sawing the dowelling with handsaws and gluing it all together with glue guns!

The children are also going to be designing and painting their own Roman shields.

Physical Education

We have just acquired an amazing, forward thinking, brand new PE scheme. Mr. Barnard will be teaching the children every Thursday afternoon (not all at once!), and Mrs. Pegg will be teaching some of the children on Wednesday afternoon.

Maths

We will teach maths discretely (i.e. it won’t be linked to our topic work). The children are grouped for maths according to their needs, and the pace at which they are capable of learning. Over the course of the term, activities/teaching will still include place value, column addition and subtraction, as well as some groups introducing long multiplication and ‘bus-stop’ division. Other activities will relate to money, measures (such as length, weight and capacity), 2-D and 3-D shape, and data handling.

If you would like further information about what your child is learning, please contact their maths group teacher.

Music

We will be following our school scheme called Charanga—<http://charanga.com>. Our second 6 week unit is based around Christmas songs!

PLEASE REMEMBER WE ARE AVAILABLE FOR SHORT, INFORMAL MEETINGS AFTER SCHOOL ON MONDAYS AND FRIDAYS. IF YOU WANT A LONGER APPOINTMENT, PLEASE SEE THE OFFICE.