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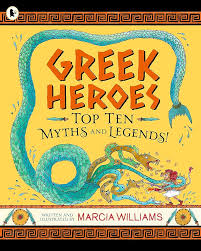
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Dear Parents and Carers,

**Welcome back!**

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you a Happy New Year and welcome you and your children back to Year 5. We have already had the most amazing start to Year 5, and we know that the upcoming terms are going to be fabulous with lots of wonderful learning opportunities ahead of us. It has been lovely to see how well all the children have settled and how well they come into school each day, ready for learning. We are all very excited for this term.

**English**

This term in English we are reading Greek Heros, which contains multiple myths and legends about the Greek gods. We will read about Perseus, Bellerophon, Atalanta, Achillies and Jason. The text will be the stimulus for our creative writing, where the children will then write a discussion piece. This unit will give the children the chance to use their argumentative side to create a discussion about if the Greek Gods are real or fake.

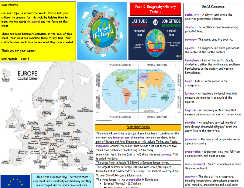
In our Reading sessions, we will be reading ‘The Good Thieves’ by Katherine Rundell. In the text we meet Vita. Her beloved grandfather Jack has been cheated out of his home and possessions by a notorious conman with Mafia connections. Seeing Jack's spirit is broken, Vita is desperate to make him happy again, so she devises a plan to outwit his enemies and recover his home.

The children’s library day will be on a Thursday so could you please make sure they are reading at home and reading diaries are signed and books returned on a Thursday to be checked and changed.

**Maths**

We will start the term by applying our knowledge of the four operations when solving word problems. We will develop our knowledge of bar modelling to help reveal how to solve the problem. Then we will be looking at Statistics and Fractions.

**Curriculum Theme**

For the first half term we will continue with the theme ‘Around the world’ Pupils will learn about the topography, climate and landmarks of European countries through independent research and apply similar research to North America, Australia and other key locations around the world. This will allow them to understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of both human and physical features and make comparisons using a variety of sources, including maps, photographs, video footage and data.

After half term we will start our new theme about ‘Climate Change’ where we will explore the Green House Effect and what can be done to reduce Global Warming.

**Other subjects at a glance:**

**Science** – In this unit, children will learn about the properties of changing materials. Spring term we will be looking at two scientist's Barbra McClintock and Kusala Rajendram.

**Music** – This term we will learn how to use steel pans and work towards a performance, later in the term.

**French –** The unit, that the children are learning how to tell the days, weeks and months of the year in French.

**PD** – We will be following our No Outsiders units starting with caring relationships.

**Useful websites**

[www.hightersheath.excelsiormat.org](http://www.hightersheath.excelsiormat.org)

[KS2 - England - BBC Bitesize](https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/zbr9wmn)

**Important Dates for this term**

Thursday 16th January 2025 - Mini Frist Aid Training

Thursday 20th March 2025 - Think Tank Museum

**Final Notices!**

**PE day** is **Monday** and **Tuesday**. Please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school on those days. Earrings are to be removed or not to be worn on PE days and long hair needs to be tied back.

Homework – what will be sent out on Friday and will be return on Tuesday.

If you have any queries, concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to ask. Please phone the school office or email: [enquiry@hightersheath.excelsiormat.org](mailto:enquiry@hightersheath.excelsiormat.org)

I hope that this year will be an exciting, enriching and rewarding year for everybody in Year 5 and I very much hope that you will join us in helping to make this happen.

Best wishes and thank you in anticipation for your continued support,

Miss Vigers and Mrs Sharif