

### **Religious Education (R.E.)**

RE begins with the end of the Christmas story and the story of the Magi. We will then look at who Jesus was and events in his life leading up to Holy Week and Easter.

After the Half term we will be exploring what salvation is and what it means to Christians.

### **Personal Social Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE)**

To link with the start of the New Year the children will begin by looking at New Years' Resolutions. We will look at setting short and long term goals and dreams and aspirations for the year and our lives. We will talk about how these could be achieved. After half term the topic changes to Good to be Me, when we will celebrate the wide range of differences between us all.

### **Physical Education (P.E.)**

The start of this term sees the South Coach Sports coach return to Woodpecker class. We will be having our games sessions on a Tuesday afternoon and children need to be prepared for both indoor sessions and outdoor. As the weather is turning colder children are able to wear tracksuits for outdoor sessions but we would ask that they still keep their shorts in school for sessions in the hall. It is also a good idea for girls who wear tights to keep a pair of spare socks in their PE bag.

Our Outdoor and Adventurous activities will be covered through the forest schools programme.

### **Computing**

The children will have opportunity to immerse themselves in a period of basic programming this first half term. They will use the program Scratch to create basic algorithms, designing and programming the movements of a mythical monster.

After half term the children will use a choice of online apps and programs to create a survey of their own design.

Thank you for your ongoing support, please do remember we have an open door policy, but our official drop in day is a Tuesday.

*Rebecca Holden J. J. L.*



## **WOODPECKER CLASS**

## **CURRICULUM OUTLINE**

### **SPRING TERM 2017**

TERM DATES: begins: Tuesday 3rd January  
ends: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April

INSET DAY Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February

HALF TERM: Monday 20<sup>th</sup> – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February

### **Myths and Monsters & Stories from Imaginary Worlds**

Welcome back! And thank you for all our lovely cards and gifts that we received at the end of last term.

This term in Woodpecker class we are taking on two smaller topics. We begin with a history topic focusing on Ancient Greece. The children will find out about their myths and legends, famous people and the legacy they left behind.

After the February half term we will switch to a literacy led topic. We will be studying classic children's stories set in imaginary lands.

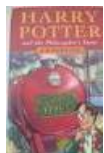
As before, home activity sheets will be set and sent out on a Friday and should be returned to school by the following Wednesday. Spellings will also be recorded in their homework books so they can learn them at home. Spelling tests take place on a Friday and times tables' tests on a Monday.

**Please help your child to remember to put their book in the book box, or their homework will not be stuck in!**  
**Thank you.**

## English

This term we will begin our literacy sessions looking at story writing, focusing on the genre of Myths. We will look, in particular at, planning a story and characterisation while continuing our grammar work on sentence structure and word choice

After half term we will be looking at classic children's



texts that are set in imaginary worlds. In literacy the focus will be Harry Potter and The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe. The children will look at newspaper reports and letter writing. Other classics from imaginary worlds will be shared in reading groups.



We have started the new reading challenge for the term and again the children will earn extra points by reading at home. Please make sure that they record this in their reading records, all you have to do is sign it! Everyone who completes the challenge by the Easter holiday will be rewarded with Easter Chocolate!!

## Maths

Maths this term will see us continue our work on the four operations, looking at both mental and written strategies. Children will continue to have a times table test every Friday and any help you can give at home to help them learn their target tables is hugely appreciated.



We will spend several weeks looking at measures, focusing this term on volume and mass and money and time.

Please remember to use the Mathletics programme that the school subscribes to (log ins and passwords are stuck in the children homework books) as this really does help them increase the speed and accuracy of their mental calculations.

## Science

*\*Science will be taught to each year group individually on a Thursday afternoon while the other year is at Forest Schools Therefore each year will be covering both topics in a half term.\**

Initially, we will be studying rocks: comparing their appearance and physical properties; that soil is made up of rocks and other matter and how fossils are formed.



After that we will be dealing with forces, investigating friction and exploring how we can measure force. As part of our ongoing development of investigative skills, we will be setting up practical and comparative investigations, ensuring fair tests and considering different ways that our findings can be collected and displayed.

## History

We will be studying the ancient Greeks on our History sessions this term.



The children will use their geographical skills from last term to locate Greece on a map and revise their work on continents. We will place the Ancient Greeks in time in relation to other known periods such as the Romans, Celts and the birth of Christ. They will have chances to research their lifestyle and culture; find out about famous Greeks and famous buildings and the history of the Olympics.

## Music

This term sees Woodpecker class learning and rehearsing a selection of songs for a musical based on the story of Helen of Troy. We hope some of these songs will be up to performance standard by our class assembly!



## Art and Design



This term we will be looking at the traditional patterns found in Ancient Greek art. Children will have the opportunity to work in clay creating two different styles of clay pot that hopefully will be decorated in the Greek style. As part of their DT work they will design and make 3D sculptures of their monsters which they wrote about in their literacy sessions.

After half term we will look at the work of Dutch artist M. C. Escher and try creating our own optical illusions.

## Modern Foreign Language (MFL)

The children will be continuing their study of French, consolidating their basic vocabulary of greetings, days the week and colours. We will then extend their vocabulary to include family names, everyday items, including food and numbers. The children will be encouraged to engage in dialogue and some basic conversation with one another.

