



A message from Mrs Williams and Mrs Bowden

Welcome back after the Christmas Holidays. We hope you all enjoyed the festivities. We are looking forward to continuing with our predators topic, then exploring our new history based topic. In this newsletter we hope to give you some useful information and some ideas about the topics and areas of the curriculum we are studying this term. To ensure the best possible learning experiences for your children, we would like to continue building positive partnerships with all parents and guardians. If you have any queries then please feel free to contact us in school.

This term's topics are...

Gods and Mortals

From nothingness came chaos, from chaos came air and water, from air and water came life! Then, rising majestically from the darkness, came Gaia, Mother Earth, a beacon of warmth and light.



Myths and Legends!

What is a myth? What is a legend? Explore these questions and more in this special project about the magic and mystery of Wales. (This is a mini topic)

Mathematics and Numeracy

In our maths lessons this term we will be looking at place value, number, fractions and time. We will be further extending your child's understanding of place value, including multiplying and dividing numbers by 10 and 100. Your child will be taught to recognise, find and write fractions of convenient amounts, e.g. 1/10 of 100 or 1/3 of 60. Your child will also count up and down in tenths and understand that tenths are the result of dividing an object or quantity into 10 equal parts. In our work on time, we will tell and write the time on digital and analogue clocks. Your child will revise the 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10 times tables including division facts.

We will be applying these skills in various ways across the curriculum including problem solving and reasoning tasks often linked to our topic.

Language, Literacy and Communication (English)

Through our topic work on Gods and Mortals, your child will study character profiles and instructional writing. We are encouraging the children to join their letters using the cursive handwriting scheme. As a school we are working hard on promoting the importance of spelling correctly. This term we are having a big push on spelling accurately in our work and trying to make spelling fun. Our aim is to produce capable and independent spellers through an engaging and challenging whole school approach. All children will be given spellings each week to learn and will be assessed through activities during the week.

Reading

*We will continue to use the guided reading approach in Year 3. Your child will need to bring their reading book to school **every day**. Please listen to your child read daily and ask them questions about the text that they have read.*

Expressive arts

Through our topic work, your child will experience drawing and models! In DT, your child will create a decoy vessel similar to a Trojan Horse. In art, your child will be experimenting with Ancient Greek patterns and pottery.

Health and well being

In PE we will be participating in team challenges and competitive games (attack and defence tactics) with a focus on hockey to begin with. Individually and in pairs/groups we will explore gymnastics both on the floor and on apparatus. In PSE our theme for this term is 'going for goals'.

Language, Literacy and Communication (Welsh)

The class have been working hard on their Welsh skills so far this year and they can speak about themselves well. This term we will be focussing on the past tense and 3rd person.

Some of the patterns being covered are;

Ble est ti? Es i ...
Beth wisgaist ti? Gwisgais i ...
Beth welaist ti? Gwelais i ...
Beth fwytaist ti? Bwytais i ...
Ble gest ti? Ces i ...

Pwy ydy e/hi? 'Jac' ydy e/'Sian ydy hi
Ble mae e'n/hi'n byw? Mae e'n/hi'n byw yn...
Beth mae e'n/hi'n hoffi? Mae e'n/hi'n hoffi...
Beth dydy e/hi ddim yn hoffi? Dydy e/hi ddim yn hoffi...

Science and Technology

We will link our science work to our topics. We will study different states of matter! Your child will develop the scientific skills of predicting, carrying out and evaluating science investigations. Our main skills focus this term is developing. We will be exploring questions like, 'Why did Icarus fall from the sky?'

In IT, we will carry out online research and create spreadsheets linked to Gods and Mortals!

Humanities

Through our topics Gods and Mortals and Myths and Legends, your child will sequence events on a timeline; identify significant people in history, including Welsh history; and select, record and organise historical information.

How you can help your child

Read with your child daily (discussing the text and any spelling patterns noted); mental maths practice (little and often is best), including thoroughly learning the 2,3,4,5 and 10 times tables; arriving to school on time prepared for the day. Please encourage your children to really think carefully about their spelling and to learn lists that will be sent home. Thank you for your continued support.

Useful Information (stick me on the fridge!)

Homework:

Homework will be given out on a **Thursday/Friday** and should be returned on a **Tuesday** each week. This will usually be one numeracy task (linked to work in class) and one task (of choice) from the topic sheet provided at the beginning of a new topic.

If your child finds a task difficult or works particularly hard, feel free to note it down in the homework book.

Reading diaries:

Please read with your child every night (or as often as possible) for at least 10 minutes. You need to **make a record** in their reading diary at least **once a week** this will be acknowledged by the teacher. Children should bring their reading book and diary to school **every day**.

PE days and required kit:

Monday – outdoor (weather permitting)

Wednesday – usually indoor

- T-shirt (white or in the colour of their sports day groups)
- Shorts and trousers
- trainers

Lunch:

Hot lunches are prepared by the school kitchen staff with a sandwich option on a Thursday. Lunch needs to be paid for in advance via the SQUID system. Please discuss the dinner options with your child to ensure that there is something that they like. If you need an up to date menu, please ask.

Contact information

Email: Mayals.PrimarySchool@swansea-edunet.gov.uk

Phone: 01792 402755

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/mayalsprimary>

Website: <http://mayals-primary-school.j2bloggy.com/>

Class email: year3email@gmail.com