

# Tokyo Newsletter Term 2

Welcome back! We hope you all had an enjoyable half term break. We have really seen a marked improvement in the children's independence, confidence and resilience since joining us last term so a big thank you for your continued support with this.

This is always a very busy term in class, so please make note of some of the important dates shown below. As always, please do come and speak to us if you have any questions or concerns.  
Many thanks, Mr Jones & Miss Langley.

## Literacy

This term we will be writing:

Non-chronological reports focusing on mythical creatures from Ancient Greece. These reports will employ formal language, feature topic sentences and organised paragraphs, showcase intriguing facts, and incorporate gripping warnings to captivate our readers.

We will also be exploring the realm of quest stories, where we'll follow heroes on journeys to vanquish menacing monsters, drawing inspiration from the captivating Ancient Greek myth of The Minotaur.

## Mathematics

In mathematics this term we will be learning to:

- Compare and order fractions whose denominators are both the same and different
- Recognise mixed numbers and improper fractions and convert from one form to the other
- Add and subtract fractions with the same/different denominators and related fractions;
- Multiply and divide proper fractions and mixed numbers by whole numbers, supported by materials and diagrams.

## Reading

Children in Year 5 & 6 are expected to read daily for a minimum of 20 minutes. Every day children should be bringing home their school reading book. There is masses of evidence and research in education to show the positive impact of daily reading on children's wider learning and particularly their language and writing development. Please encourage your child by reading to them and with them as much as possible at home.

## PE & Gym

Our PE days this term will be Thursday and Friday but children need to have kits in school every day as there may be other occasions they are needed. Our session at Dover Leisure Centre for gymnastics will continue up and including to the 8<sup>th</sup> of December.

## Diary Dates

Learning & Progress Meetings - 4.12.23  
KS2 Pantomime - 6.12.23  
Christmas Silent Disco - 12.12.23  
Christmas Dinner - 14.12.23  
Christmas Parties - 14.12.23  
Christingle Service- 15.12.23  
End of Term - 15.12.23

## Learning and Progress Meetings

Our next assessment week will take place the week commencing the 28th November. These are nothing for children to be concerned about and are used by us to inform our next teaching steps and identify errors where we may need to support children. Information from these assessments will be passed on to parents on the 4th December at our learning and progress meetings. Further information about the format of these meetings will be released in due course.

# Ancient Greece



Greece Map and Satellite Image

## Key Questions

- What is an empire?
- How was Ancient Greece able to establish one?
- In what ways was Ancient Greece 'ahead of its time'?
- How are the religious beliefs of ancient Greece similar to other ancient civilisations?
- How does Ancient Greek religion/gods influence us today?
- What do we know about the Ancient Greek writing system?
- What was writing important?
- What did the Ancient Greek people write about?

### Webpages for Extra Information

[https://www.ducksters.com/history/ancient\\_greece.php](https://www.ducksters.com/history/ancient_greece.php)

[https://www.historyforkids.net/ancient-greece.html#google\\_vignette](https://www.historyforkids.net/ancient-greece.html#google_vignette)

### Interesting facts:

**Birthplace of Democracy:** Ancient Greece is often regarded as the birthplace of democracy. In Athens, around the 5th century BCE, citizens had the opportunity to participate in decision-making through a system known as direct democracy.

**Olympic Games Origin:** The Olympic Games, which are celebrated today as an international sporting event, originated in Ancient Greece. The first recorded Olympic Games took place in Olympia in 776 BCE and were dedicated to the Greek god Zeus. These games featured events like running, long jump, and discus throwing.

**Greek Mythology:** Greek mythology is a rich tapestry of gods, goddesses, heroes, and mythical creatures. The stories of gods like Zeus, Athena, and Hercules, as well as epic tales like the Trojan War and the adventures of Odysseus, are integral to Western literature and culture.

**Year 5&6**

**Topic: Ancient Greece**

**Theme: Family/ Place/ Physical Geography features**

## Our objectives include:

To know where and when the Ancient Greek civilisation existed and order events on a timeline.

To know some significant events from the history of Ancient Greece

To know about the Greek Empire, how it was established and maintained and the impact on the wider world.

To understand the religious beliefs of the Ancient Greek people and know some of the gods they worshipped.

To understand the Ancient Greek writing system and know some well-known Greek writers and stories.

To research and describe an important Ancient Greek artefact: Vases Understand how our knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources and that different versions of past events may exist, giving some reasons for this.

## Key Vocabulary

**Civilization:** A complex society with developed culture, politics, and technology.

**Democracy:** A system of government where citizens have the power to participate in decision-making and vote on laws and policies.

**Mythology:** A collection of stories, often involving gods and heroes, explaining the beliefs and practices of a society.

**Philosopher:** A person who engages in deep thinking and contemplation to understand the world.

**Architecture:** The art and science of designing and constructing buildings and structures.

**Historian:** A person who studies and writes about history, documenting events and interpreting the past.

## Essential Knowledge

### Geography:

Children should understand the geographical features of Ancient Greece, including its location, climate, and the significance of its many islands.

### History

**Timeline:** They should be familiar with the historical timeline of Ancient Greece, including major periods, events, and figures.

**City-States:** Children should be able to identify and describe key city-states in Ancient Greece, with a focus on Athens and Sparta, and understand their unique forms of government, culture, and values.

**Democracy:** Understanding the development of democracy in Athens and its impact on the modern world, including the concept of citizens' rights and responsibilities.

**Architecture:** Understanding the significance of Greek architecture, including iconic structures like the Parthenon, and its impact on modern architectural styles.

**Wars:** Knowledge about key wars in Ancient Greece, such as the Peloponnesian War, their causes, major events, and consequences.

**Everyday Life:** Understanding of everyday life in Ancient Greece, including social structure, education, family life, and the roles of men and women.

**Modern Influence:** An appreciation for the enduring impact of Ancient Greek culture on the modern world, including its influence on language, government, art, and philosophy.

### Literacy

**Greek Mythology:** Knowledge about Greek mythology, including the major gods and goddesses, their stories, and their roles in Greek culture.