



Year 6 Autumn 2023 – Gods and Mortals



Rights Respecting Values

At Shawclough School we enable children to fulfil their role as responsible citizens, now and in the future, by developing skills and independence, creativity and teamwork. As part of thinking independence we seek to develop each child's ability to make informed choices recognising that their actions contribute towards ensuring that the rights of all are respected.

Areas of learning

English: We will be studying a range of texts, including fiction texts relating to our topic (Greek Myths), non-fiction texts (Ancient Greeks) and texts relating to other cultures (Ahmed's Secret and Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters). We will develop our speaking and listening skills through debates and performing Greek myths and the applying this to narrative writing and other genres.

Mathematics: Our focus in maths will be arithmetic which we will be practising daily. We will build on our previous knowledge of place value and work with the four operations to calculate mentally, with formal written methods and to solve problems.

Science: We will be studying life processes, habitats and the adaptation of creatures from micro-organisms to large mammals. We will be setting up investigations, asking scientific questions, making fair tests and observing, measuring and recording our results accurately.

Computing: This term the emphasis will be on understanding computer networks, including the internet; how they can provide multiple services, such as the World Wide Web and the opportunities they offer for communication and collaboration.

Spanish: We will research Spanish culture, customs and history; as well as beginning to label items and choose appropriate words to complete short sentences.

History: We will use a variety of activities to investigate the characteristics of Ancient Greece and Ancient Islamic Civilisations as outlined in the New History Curriculum. This will cover ideas, beliefs, attitudes and experiences of men, women and children.

PSHCE: We will be exploring our strengths and achievements, considering how we can best apply them in our future ambitions. We'll look into careers which inspire us to create a super future for ourselves, whilst using role play to learn how to keep ourselves safe in an ever-changing world

D&T: As designers we will be researching, planning and creating clothing inspired by the Greeks while using modern day influences. We will be building on our textiles skills to join and decorate materials.

Geography:

We will continue to develop our map skills as we locate places linking to our Greek topic while considering the differences between the physical and human Geography of Ancient and modern Greece.

As a school we have considered very carefully what our children need to develop. We have identified six key areas which we have called our "School Drivers". To ensure our drivers are at the heart of our curriculum this is what we are going to do this term.

Independent Enquirers – we will research and present personal biographies, beginning this work at school and completing at home,

Creative Thinkers – we will problem solve and ask questions during our science investigations.

Team Workers – in PE we will work as a team developing our skills to play cooperatively.

Reflective Learners – we will reflect on our learning setting new goals and challenges : aiming high.

Effective Participants – we will be active participants in all areas of the curriculum.

Self- Managers - we will follow the routines and systems in Year 6.

Top 10 tips for Year 6 parents

1. Read with your child. Discuss the meaning of the text. Talk about why the character has acted in a particular way. Do they like the book? Why or why not? Talk about what you are reading as well (if appropriate).
2. Keep practising times tables at any available time – in the queue at the supermarket, in a traffic jam etc. Also practise division facts from the times tables e.g. $2 \times 5 = 10$ so $10 \div 2 = 5$, then move onto decimal facts e.g. $0.2 \times 7 = 1.4$.
3. Practise using maths in real-life situations e.g. reading timetables, money (how much change will you get?), telling the time with analogue as well as digital clocks, converting from 12 hour to 24 hour time and working out the duration of events.
4. Make sure your child goes to sleep at a reasonable time. Year 6 is a very challenging year; your child will have a much better chance of grasping difficult concepts if they arrive at school well-rested.
5. www.bbc.co.uk/revisewise has activities and information for revising maths and English.
6. Encourage your child to become more independent – they will need to be next year. Help them to develop strategies for making sure they have everything they need at school rather than packing their bag for them!
7. Monitor their homework; make sure they hand it in on time. If your child has not understood what they need to do and you are unsure how best to explain, get them to ask the teacher as soon as possible.
8. To develop speaking and listening skills, encourage your child to explain things to you as clearly as possible. Question their explanation. If necessary give them a few minutes to mentally prepare. This could also apply to skills of persuasion or instructions. Only let your child watch that special TV program if they can successfully persuade you using good persuasive language and reasoning in the time limit set. (No more "please, please, please!")
9. Ask general knowledge questions such as countries and their capitals, or basic scientific facts/vocabulary. Does your child know the location of major countries? What language do they speak there?
10. As they become more independent, many Year 6 children begin to walk to school on their own. This is a good time to revise road safety strategies.