



# TRAWDEN FOREST PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Class Topic Newsletter - Rotten Romans

*Every child matters; every moment counts!*

### Welcome back!

Dear parents and carers,

I hope you had a wonderful and restful Christmas break, the children have all returned with some lovely stories about what they have been up to in the holidays.

We have a very busy half term coming up; we have a history expert visiting us on the 16th January to kick off our exciting new Romans topic! It will be a fantastic, immersive session which I'm sure your child will tell you all about.

We also have the year three children of Marsden school coming to visit us on the 21st January, we had such a brilliant time last time we met and are looking forward to seeing them again.

As always, if you have any concerns about your child please do not hesitate to contact me.

blambert@trawden.lancs.sch.uk

Thank you.

### History...

**Our history topic this term is Rotten Romans**, The children will learn about the creation of the Roman empire, life under their rule and some of their greatest battles including the invasion of Britain.

Children will start with a big question: 'How did the Romans' lives differ to ours?' They will learn about where the Romans lived and how the Roman Empire expanded over time. They will also investigate how certain features of our lifestyle came from the Roman times.



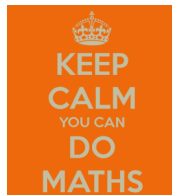
### Science...

This half term the science topic class three will be investigating is 'light'. During this block the children will create their own shadow puppet play using their expert knowledge and skills on light and shadows. They will make a theatre and puppets for the show in groups and conduct their own investigations on shadows, light and reflections.

### Maths...

This half term our focus will be:

- Multiplication and division
- Measurement
- Fractions



We will be linking to our topic by looking at Roman numerals and learning numbers 1-12.

Weekly times tables test will be continuing this half term, we are now focussing on the 4x table for the first few weeks and then we will move onto the 8x table.

### English



Through their work about the Romans and Pompeii, children will read *Escape to Pompeii* by Christina Balit and the *Roman Record* by Paul Dowsell. They will become fully immersed in what life was like in Roman times by undertaking research, taking notes & writing their own newspaper recounts about the eruption of Mount Vesuvius.

For their fiction unit, class three will explore Roman myths using Marcia Williams' *The Romans: Gods, Emperors & Dormice* and *Romulus and Remus* plus a variety of other Roman myths. Children discover all about the Gods and Goddesses of Mount Olympus and will then write and perform their own myths to an audience.

### Don't forget...

Next half term year three will be going swimming on Wednesday mornings. Watch out for the letter that will be sent out this half term.

# Our curriculum...

## Design & technology

We are going to be researching and exploring Roman chariots and what they were used for. We will then be designing and creating our own and at the end of term, we will be racing them in the play-ground.



## PSHE

We will be discussing friendships and what it means to be a good friend. We will be talking about what are positive behaviours and who is responsible for the children's actions.



## R.E.

Class three will be looking at traditional Hindu traditions and the roles of the family in this religion.



## Music

We will be looking at reggae music this half term, in particular the music of Bob Marley. We will be learning 'three little birds' on the glockenspiel and will be learning about tone and pulse.



## Phonics

We will be continuing with phonics for the full spring term to ensure the children are really secure with their reading.



## Days to remember...

### Monday:

**Guitar & woodwind lessons**

### Friday:

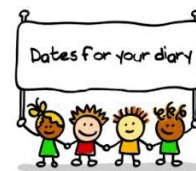
**PE- Children will need full indoor and outdoor kit in school throughout the half term.**

**Spelling and times table tests and new spellings given for the following week.**

**MyMaths homework will now be set every Friday and is expected to be completed for the following Friday.**

Thursday 16th January

History expert to visit year three. The whole day will be Roman themed so could I ask that you send your child with an old bedsheet and something that could be used for a belt so we can make togas and dress up as Romans? Thank you.



W/C 3rd February

Road safety week

12th & 13th February

Parent's evenings

## Accelerated reader

**All the children in class three have now completed an accelerated reader test. They have been placed on the appropriate book band and before Christmas chose a book to take home. They will need to take a quiz on that book when they have finished and they can do this at Tuesday and Thursday morning playtimes. It is their responsibility to undertake these quizzes and will have the opportunity to change their books every week as required.**

## Birthdays this half term

Jamie, Patrick, Louie,  
Jenna, Ibrahim, Brody,  
Alfie, Grace, Meghann,  
Daisie-Mae



## HOMEWORK...

### Reading

Children are asked to read every night for at least 15 minutes, they are given the opportunity to change their reading books on a Tuesday and Thursday.

### MyMaths

Children are set the MyMaths homework once a week and can complete this independently on a laptop or tablet.

### Spellings & Times tables

The children are given new spellings on a Friday. They will also be told which times table they will be tested on the following week. For the moment we are concentrating on the 4 times table and then moving onto the 8 x table.