



**Great Whelnetham CE Primary School**  
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## **Swans Newsletter** - Spring Term 1, 2022

Dear Parents,

I hope you have had a great Christmas and were able to spend at least some time with family. It is great to be back in school with a full class – everyone in on the first day! – and I would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year.

Our **main topic** this half term is called 'Groovy Greeks' and will involve learning about everything to do with the Ancient Greek civilisation. We will start by holding our own Ancient Olympics on the playground including jumping, running and throwing events as well as a chariot race! We will learn about everyday life for an Ancient Greek family, read some of the famous myths like Theseus and the Minotaur and investigate what they thought happens to us when we die.

In **Maths** we will be looking more at fractions and then will link them to decimals and percentages as they all are ways of representing 'parts of a whole' and can be written as equivalents of each other. It would be great if you can help support your child's learning by looking at the resources in these areas online at BBC Bitesize - KS2 Maths.

In **English** we will first create our own Greek God by taking inspiration from Zeus and the Olympians, and will produce an information poster about them. Later on the children will use their new God as the central character in their own myth, thinking about what it might be designed to teach people about ways to live their lives.

In **Art** we will be looking at the work of Manchester artist L.S. Lowry and his scenes of working class people coming and going from factories and football matches. Our **Guided Reading** will explore various myths, fiction and non-fiction texts and we will carry on reading 'Wonder' by R.J. Palacio as a class book. In **Music** we will continue to have the exciting opportunity to learn to play the flute, with the help of Mr Blythe.

Our **P.E.** lessons will be now be on **Monday and Friday**, with extra lunchtime PE on Wednesday and Friday, so please ensure your child has their P.E. kit in school on these days. Children should come in wearing school uniform and will change ready for PE. There will be 2 sets of **Home Learning** each week. Maths will go out on Tuesday and needs to be back in on Thursday; English/Topic will go out on Friday to be handed in the following Tuesday. **Spellings** will go out on Thursday and be tested the following week.

Year 5 and 6 children are expected to read at home daily, for around 20 minutes, **recording this in their Planners**, and parents should please **sign once a week** to confirm this. I would really appreciate your support with reinforcing this most beneficial habit - which helps with so many aspects of our learning. Happy reading.

Kind regards,

Mr Sharp

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