

LOWER JUNIORS AUTUMN TERM NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the Autumn Term! Lower Juniors have a busy term ahead of them and we hope that the information below will help you to support them in this.

ENGLISH: The children will have weekly spelling and dictation tasks. All basic grammar and punctuation will be re-visited before being extended to include fronted adverbials and possessive apostrophes. They will use the environment to inspire powerful descriptive writing and will be highlighting their empathy with diary writing based on an historical story. In addition, they shall be studying Greek myths, re-telling them in a range of formats, including storyboards and Freeze-framing.

MATHS: A busy term awaits; including the consolidation of a number of Transition topics, as well as the extension of Place Value understanding, written algorithms for all 4 operations, and further exploration of Measurement and Area. This will all be in addition to the weekly mental maths' tests and times table challenges; as well as regular problem solving challenges.

SCIENCE: Our topics this term start with Food Chains and The Digestive System including foods, food groups and teeth. These are followed by Electricity; including constructing a simple series circuit, investigating and making a range of switches, and experimenting with various conductors and insulators.

HISTORY: This term will see the children immerse themselves in the lives of the Ancient Greeks. They will study temples and beliefs; compare the lifestyles of men and women, rich and poor; explore education and the army. The theatre and Greek plays will offer opportunities to perform and the Battle of Marathon will highlight the importance of military strategy over brute force.

ART: After studying the Greek myths, in both English and History; we shall select our favourite characters and learn how to use symbolism to represent them, as well as the importance of colours to demonstrate moods and feelings. Having decided upon images, we shall transfer these onto Greek theatre masks.

GEOGRAPHY: A fabulous term will be spent learning about India. Lower Juniors will discover how the climate influences the lives they live, clothing and food, the incredible differences between the experiences of the rich and poor, not forgetting to mention dancing and entertainment! An in depth look at the the traditional village of Chembakolli will help give the study a keener focus. The term will finish with a fully immersive India Day – full of artefacts, traditional outfits and much dancing.

PE/GAMES: Please ensure your children bring all their sport's kit to school on Monday, of each week; this will then be sent home each Friday. They will be changing in school, for all lessons. This year Games will start with Football and Netball, PE will be fitness.

Music: On Tuesdays they will have Brass with Mrs Holton. In their general Music lessons they will be learning to improvise, to sing in a Gospel style and to create atmospheric music, for a scene, with a given set of instruments. In the latter part of the term, preparation will begin for Young Voices, 2023.

PSHE: A busy term, starting with a focus on Empathy, this will be followed up by acknowledging the importance of Resilience, encouraging the children to demonstrate both values. We shall also study typical social dilemmas as well as the importance of personal safety around people we do not know.

DT: Greek pottery will never have looked so good, as Lower Juniors investigate methods and patterns traditionally used; before selecting their own aspects of Greek life to represent on papier mache bowls, vases or plates . We are hoping to visit the British Museum to further inspire our work.

HOMEWORK: Spelling homework will be set every Monday; initially this will be limited to work to be completed in their homework book, before worksheets are added; the worksheets will be due in each Wednesday, with the homework book due in every Friday. Any corrections will need to be completed over the weekend. Additionally, the children are expected to read to an adult/older sibling for at least 10 minutes every night (being prepared to discuss developments in class the following day) and to practise their times tables too.