



Year 3 Newsletter Spring Term

The Ruling Romans - Heroes or Villains?

This Topic begins with the children becoming detectives—they will use pictures, artefacts, pieces of clothing and art to help them discover the historical period in time we are looking at this term. Hopefully by the time you receive this, the children will have discovered that this term we are delving into and finding out all about the Ruling Romans. Throughout the topic, the children will have to keep in mind our leading question—'Heroes or Villains?' - as they will be casting their votes based on evidence. During this topic the children will get to handle artefacts; create their own paper mosaics and also take a trip back in time and take part in a Roman workshop hosted by the pupils and teachers at Noadswood School.

Dates for your diary:

28th February: Topic Hook Day in class
3rd March: World Book Day (children to dress up)
Date TBC: Noadswood Roman Workshop

Extended Learning Opportunities:

- Research the Romans from books or the internet and create a quiz for other classmates to answer.
- Make an accessory for your Roman outfit. Maybe a shield, bracelet, sword?

In Literacy: The children will begin the topic by researching Roman Gladiators using a range of non-fiction books. They will gather facts and information to then create their own non-chronological report on Roman Gladiators. We will then look at the book *Escape from Pompeii*. We will look carefully at how the author has chosen language to create certain moods and images and the children will aim to expand their own vocabulary. The children will then imagine they are one of the children in the story and write a detailed diary of the day Mount Vesuvius erupted.

In Maths: We will start by looking at money amounts and making the same amount in different ways. We will look at how to convert pounds to pence and pence to pounds. We will then use our knowledge of money and apply it to adding and subtracting using the formal methods we have learnt this year as well as working practically. Later in the term, we will look at statistics and interpret data using bar charts, pictograms and tables. We will solve one and two step questions such as, 'How many more?' and 'How many fewer?'

We will also be practising our times tables each Friday and starting to complete the Orchard times table challenge.

Leading Question:

The Ruling Romans—Heroes or Villains?

In History: The children will begin by looking at the timeline of the Roman invasion. We will be finding out who was in Britain during the invasion and how the Roman rule changed Britain. They will be exploring and handling artefacts to explore what they were used for. The children will be finding out about Julius Caesar and his influence during the Roman times.

In Art: The children will be looking closely at Roman Mosaics to understand how and why they were created. The children will be designing and creating their own mosaic using coloured sugar paper. We will also be studying the work of Mondrian and creating our own Mondrian style piece of art work.

In other subjects:

French: We will be continuing to learn our French phonics as well as practising numbers, greetings and colours and will now begin to learn some names of body parts as well.

ICT: We will be using a programme called Scratch to code a conversation between two characters.

PSHE: We will be looking at how the internet is used and we will be assessing the information we see online. We will be focussing on making safe and reliable choices when searching online.

PE: In PE, we will be learning the skills of attacking and defending and incorporate this into our game play

Reminders:

Our PE days are **Tuesdays and Wednesdays**. Children will be expected to wear their PE kits to school on these days with their school jumper or cardigan.

Children must have their Orchard Reading Journal and Orchard Spelling Journal in school every day. They will have it checked weekly by their teacher who will expect to see a minimum of three reading comments and evidence that they have practised their spellings. Children will always be tested weekly on spellings on a Friday—they may forget to tell you this!

This half term we will be introducing times table books. The children will be tested on times tables each Friday. They will be starting on their 2's, 5's and 10's. The children will have to answer 12 questions in 1 minute. They will be bringing practise sheets home this week too.

Many thanks for your support

The Year 3 Team