

Dosbarth Elm

Autumn Curriculum News 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to Dosbarth Elm. We hope you had a restful and enjoyable summer break. It is lovely to see all the children back safe and well after the holidays, ready for the busy term ahead.

This year we are fortunate enough to be supported again in class by Mrs Funtek and Miss Jones. Mrs Griffiths will be teaching the class on a Monday, and as last year, Mrs Pitcock will cover the class's PPA time.

This term, pupils will be developing their skills through a topic based around the theme of 'Power', focusing primarily on the Romans. Our enquiry question is, *Why were the Romans so powerful and what was their impact on Britain?* The topic will have a strong humanities focus but will also allow opportunities to explore all other areas of the curriculum. If you have any books/resources that you think maybe of use for this topic then we would love to borrow them, we promise to take great care of them.

P.E/Games – P.E/Games will be taught weekly on a **Monday** by Mrs Griffiths. Kit (including trainers) will need to be worn into school on the P.E day.

Bags – As with last year, there will be no need for pupils to bring bags into school.

Water Bottles – We will continue with our routine of water bottles being brought from home on a daily basis. Please can the bottles be plastic (re-useable if possible) and be named clearly in a permanent pen. **PLAIN WATER only please.**

Coats/Sun hats – Please ensure the appropriate items are brought in for the forecasted weather each day.

Stationery – No stationery will be needed from home as school will provide all resources needed.

Homework - We have made some changes to the way we set homework this year (see the School Newsletter for details). The Elm Class Homework Grid (see below) details the activities pupils must and could do.

At a minimum, for pupils to make progress, they should be completing the Must Do activities set out on the class Homework Grid. These activities have been pared down to ensure they are manageable for pupils and families whilst ensuring the maximum impact on progress.

For those pupils who want an extra challenge and want to push themselves to be their best, they can choose to complete a range of other activities from the Homework Grid. Pupils do not have to do these 'extra' activities. However, for each activity that is completed, pupils will be rewarded with a Gold Star and can stand in our Achievers Assembly if they would like to, where they will become Homework Heroes.

In addition to the above, on occasions when teachers feel pupils need a little extra practice of a particular skill that has been taught in class, ad-hoc targeted homework activities may be sent home with pupils to help them revise their learning.

If you have any concerns or queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Glover / Mrs Griffiths



DOSBARTH ELM HOMEWORK GRID

AUTUMN TERM

MUST DO'S	EXTRA - HEALTH & WELLBEING
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily practise of tables already learnt / learn those not already known daily. • Read/ share a book every day with an adult. • Weekly spelling practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our school rules are based on respect. Produce a poster about RESPECT to include – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is respect? - Why we should be respectful? - How to be respectful • Find out about how Romans kept clean (including their teeth). • Find out about Roman gods/goddesses. What were they the God of? Did they have special powers? • Listen to different genres of music – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - how do they make you feel? - which is your favourite? - which would you recommend to a friend?
EXTRA - SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	EXTRA - HUMANITEIS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did the Romans heat their homes, transport water and move across their lands? Answer these questions using labelled diagrams and explanations. • Make some Roman Honey Cakes or any other Roman food. Write the recipe/take a photo of you cooking the food. • Make and evaluate a Roman catapult (instructions here). • Make Roman bread (see the recipe here). • Romans used water clocks to tell the time. Find out what a water clock is and how it works. Can you make one? Is it accurate? • Make your own kaleidoscope (instructions here). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find out as much as you can about the Romans. Make a poster showing your research. • Read the following story openers. Choose one of them and continue the story – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I could see a mass of boats on the horizon and the soldiers within them. I ran. - The light caught my eye, I bent down and picked the item up, a coin, a very old coin. A buzzing filled my ears and ... • Translate these Roman British place names into their modern versions – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eboracum / Camulodunum / Venta / Lindum Isca Silurium / Moridunum / Londinium / Venta Silurum. • If a place name has chester, caster, cester, or in Wales, caer in it, it is almost certainly Roman. How many UK place names can you find with these? Can you put them in alphabetical order?
EXTRA - MATHS & NUMERACY	EXTRA - CREATIVE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make up some calculations using Roman Numerals. • Choose a times table and write it out using Roman Numerals. • Look up these mathematical words – angle / geometry / century / square. Where do these words come from? What is their original (root) meaning? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Romans wore togas. See if you can make a toga and take a picture of you wearing it. Would you like to wear a toga, why/why not? • Make your own Roman mosaic using cut up paper, pasta shapes, seeds etc. The simpler the design the easier.

The above homework activities link to our term's topic and science work. If you complete any of the EXTRA activities, we would love to see your work in school. You could take a photo, make a video or bring your work into school to show the rest of the class. For each EXTRA activity you complete you will earn a 