



Dear Parents,

During Autumn Term those of us in Year 5 will be following a unit of work on a theme that focuses on classical civilisations.

This unit of work is part of the International Primary Curriculum. This new curriculum sets out very clearly what children will learn – the learning goals – in three different areas:

1. The subjects of the curriculum. The learning goals for each of these subjects are at least as challenging as anything taught in the curriculum in your child's own country. In many cases, the learning goals are more challenging.
2. Personal development – the characteristics which will help children become more responsible, independent learners.
3. International understanding – which will help children develop both a sense of the independence of their own country and culture and the interdependence between countries and cultures.

Each unit of work is based around specific targets derived from the learning goals for one or more of the subjects.

During this unit we will be focusing on History, Music, Art and International.

In **History**, we'll be find out:

- About the Greek city-states of Athens and Sparta
 - How people voted in Athens and Sparta
 - How the Persian War brought the Greek city-states together
 - What the Parthenon can tell us about Athenian life
 - How to perform our own Greek play
 - About the life Alexander the Great and what he achieved
 - Why Rome had a republic and then an emperor
 - What daily life was like in Ancient Rome
 - What happened when the Romans invaded another country
 - Why the Roman Empire declined
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- What happened when the Anglo-Saxons invaded and settled in Britain





- About the Viking invasion of Britain
- About the life and legacy of Alfred the Great
- How to use archaeological evidence to find out about the past
- About the history of Britain, from the Roman occupation to the Norman Conquest

In **Music**, we'll be finding out:

- How to write and perform our own Greek chorus

In **Art**, we'll be finding out:

- About Ancient Greek and Roman art
- How to create our own piece of art in a Greek or Roman style

In **International**, we'll be finding out:

- About the effects of invasion on countries around the world

All of the work we are going to do has been specially written to help your child reach the learning goals. Children will be reading, researching, writing, illustrating, working on their own and working in groups. We will be checking to see how well your child has learned through particular activities and asking children to explain their work, perhaps to you.

We already know the interest you take in your child's work. If you can, please discuss with your child the work they have done as the term progresses and let them teach you.

If your child has some work to research, please help them, but without actually doing the work. If you have the chance to further their interest in the ideas of this theme please take it, but your enthusiasm and interest is most important.

By the end of the unit, we hope your child has achieved all of the learning targets. We hope they have had an enjoyable time in the classroom. And we hope you have enjoyed seeing your child work with enthusiasm. If you have any comments or questions about your child's learning, please get in touch.