



Colvestone Primary School

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# Colvestone Primary School

## Class newsletter

### Autumn Term



## Year 4

**Mr Travis Knight**  
**Ms Sheila Fagan**  
**Ms Jackie Riviere**

Our curriculum theme for the whole school this term is **Heritage Ancient Civilisations**. Our focus area is Ancient Romans. We will be exploring a variety of different topics with a English, History and Art focus including;

- The impact of Romans in Britain.
- Pivotal figures across the timeline.
- Daily life and the demise of the empire.

Our class book is 'The Thieves of Ostia' by Caroline Lawrence. The story centres on Flavia Gemina a girl who with diverse friends and a keen interest in solving mysteries. Can Flavia find out who is killing dogs in Ostia?

### Personal, Social and Health Care Education (PSHCE).

This term the theme is Living in the Wider World:

- Rights and Responsibilities.
- Health and Wellbeing.
- The purpose of rules and laws (**vote/democracy**)
- Human rights and Different cultures.

### English

**Reading:** In reading sessions we will be making predictions, summarising key points, investigating language and vocabulary. We will be continuing to develop our ability to retrieve information from a text to answer questions, when reading for meaning and understanding.

**Writing:** We will continue to write through different genres to support our learning of the topic. Children will write narratives, diary entries, biography, myth and drama.

**Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar:** This term there will be a focus on developing the clarity and fluidity of our sentences in writing via spelling, punctuation and language structures. We will focus on ensuring our sentences are correctly punctuated consistently. We shall also build our knowledge through learning new sentence structures as well as the use of different punctuation. Lastly, there will be a renewed focus on handwriting ensuring it is of the highest standard in all aspects of the learning.

### Mathematics

We will continue to develop our understanding of place value through Roman numerals, column addition and subtraction. Further, our focus seeks to revise known multiplications while increasing our knowledge of the 6, 7 and 9 times table: this will be underpinned by a growing understanding of division facts and the relationship between the two. Rounding, ordering and comparing 4 digit numbers will assist the year group in becoming better mathematicians.



## Topic:

This term our curriculum focus is Ancient Romans. In Year 4 we will be looking at the Roman Empire and significant figures through the Roman timeline, in particular we will be focusing on the following aspects:

- Using atlases (books and online) to locate the size of the empire and its relation/ involvement of Britain (Geography);
- Learn about significant events that happened and Britain's role in some of those events (History);
- Explore every day life, how they lived as well as how the empire collapsed (History);
- Investigate the links between the Roman Empire and modern life (History);
- The Roman diet, food types and health and link this to the use of teeth in science and what we can glean from our research about Roman people (Science);
- Developing children's historical research skills (History);

## Religious Education (RE)

This term we will be looking at Judaism. Our focus will involve the creation story and the Jewish world view. It additionally incorporates learning about 'What a Rabbi Is' and what they do and how integral to the faith they are. Children will learn about the Ten commandments and their resonance in our world today. A further focus is the Torah as a Holy scripture and the inspirations behind creating such a piece of writing.

## Physical Education (PE)

The daily mile routine where children run for 15 minutes at an allocated time has begun and will continue throughout the year. This encourages healthy living and life styles. Children will learn about body science, how to exercise properly and how to stay safe by warming up before lessons and how to warm down following rigorous exercise. Your child will also attend swimming lessons once a week where they will develop their technique and stamina.

## Creative Development

This term we will be developing our design and technology skills. Our main focus will be to design and create a Roman shield for battle. This extends our heritage learning and provides another opportunity to develop our budding artists. Already children have been engaged in using various materials such as clay, water colours and poster paints to inspire learning.



## Reminders

### Swimming & P.E.

Every **Tuesday** children will develop their ability to swim. Children should be equipped with appropriate bathing wear: a full body costume for girls and swim trunks or shorts which fall above the knee for boys. **Friday** will be our day for P.E. Please ensure your child/children bring appropriate clothes that include a white t-shirt, black shorts or trousers and comfortable footwear.



### Homework and spellings

Homework will be given out each **Friday** and homework books are to be returned by the following **Wednesday**. This term the homework will be related to the class topic, class novel focussing on applying writing techniques to engage the reader.

**Please ensure your child returns their book each week with all homework completed and presented clearly.**

In addition to your child's regular homework, please ensure that they practise their times tables it is important that your child enters Year 5 knowing the multiplication and division facts for 6, 7, and 9 times tables. Also, give them opportunity to practice and develop their handwriting skills.



### Reading

It is important that your child continues to read every day at home for at least 10 minutes. Please make time to listen to your child read ask questions and make positive comments about their development.

### Punctuality

It is important that your child is punctual and arrives at school for 8.55am. This is to ensure that your child has the best possible start to their learning each day and they are focused on making progress and achieving.

Mr Knight will be out of class every week on **Tuesday mornings** for planning, preparation and assessment time. During this time, your child will be go swimming and have a numeracy and guided reading lesson. Mr Knight does not work on Fridays—on this day your child has an enrichment day that includes PE and art as well as numeracy and literacy.

**Thank you in advance for your support this term.**