



## Giant Class Newsletter

Autumn 2021

 [Twitter: GiantClass21](#)

Dear Parents & Guardians,

We are excited to welcome the children back into school this week and we hope you had a relaxing and restful summer.

Myself (Mrs Goulding) and Miss Gisbey are looking forward to working with your children through their learning journey in upper Key Stage 2. In Year 5 there is a lot of new knowledge to learn and new skills to apply, although we know the children are ready for this challenge! We are eager to support and guide the class to achieve great success but in return we do expect commitment from the children towards their learning; showing that they are always ready to learn. With this in mind, we are confident Giant class will make great progress this year!

### **Autumn topic**

This term, our topic will be 'Revolting Romans' where we will be exploring the Roman Empire and the impact on Britain. As always, we shall be taking a cross-curricular approach to our learning and explore our topic through Literacy, History, Geography, Art, Music, DT and Science. Where possible we will also incorporate Mathematical links.

### **Homework**

All homework will continue to be set online this term. Upper KS2 homework will take the following structure:

- Weekly homework set on Purple Mash, which will consolidate the week's learning.
- Weekly spellings set on Purple Mash linked to spelling rules taught in school.
- Reading - Read for 4 days of 20 minutes a week. Reading Records must be signed/dated by an adult from home. Please send Reading Records in to school on **Wednesday**.

Homework in Giant Class is set on a **Monday**, to be handed in the following **Monday**. It is important that homework is completed and handed in on time and finished to the same high standards that we expect of work in school time.

We know that many children do enjoy the creative homework set last year. Therefore pupils may complete an optional creative task linked to our topic on 'Revolting Romans'. (please see additional homework letter)

## Curriculum



### Maths

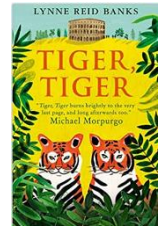
The Autumn term will begin with the pupils exploring place value to 1,000,000, moving onto comparing, ordering and rounding numbers within 1,000,000. We will be consolidating negative numbers and Roman numerals introduced in Year 4. We will then be learning to add/subtract 4 digit numbers to solve multi-step problems.

Towards the end of the term, Giant class will be learning about Multiples, Factors, Common factors and Prime numbers. We will then move to using multiplication and division to solve multi-step problems. Once secure with 'number and place value', the children will be learning about Area and Perimeter to solve complex problems.

The children will continue to build their mathematical problem solving skills through our Big Maths lessons weekly.

### Literacy

Giant Class will be reading Tiger Tiger by Lynne Reid Banks. A book about two tigers in a Roman city.



The children will be writing setting descriptions, re-capping expanded noun phrases and fronted adverbials from Year 4. Using what they will have read they will write the story from another point of view (from the tiger cubs) using direct and indirect speech. To develop the use of figurative language, we will be learning how to write poetry, in particular performance poetry.

Towards the end of the book Tiger Tiger, the children will be using relative pronouns, relative clauses and modal verbs to write persuasive letters, to try to save the two tigers from Caesar's gladiatorial arena.

We will continue to have a writing focus in our topic work, consolidating any skills taught in Literacy lessons.

Spellings will focus on the Year 5 & 6 common exception words.

### Science



In Science, the children will be using an increasing range of scientific vocabulary to investigate and evaluate their own scientific questions, through use of STEM science.

In the first half of the term, the children will be investigating forces: Who was Sir Isaac Newton; Why is he important when learning about forces; What are the different types of force? They will then be learning about magnets, friction, air resistance and how to measure forces. We are learning about Forces to explain how levers, pulleys and gears had a great effect in the Roman's weapon designs.

In the second half of the term the children will be learning about materials: Soluble Solutions, separating solutions, changing materials and oxidation.

### History and Geography







Pupils will be learning about the Roman Empire and its impact on Britain - Which periods of history come before and after the Romans? How was Rome was Founded?



The Romanisation of Britain - Why did the Romans almost lose control of Britain? What was life like in England before and after Roman occupation?

Julius Caesar's attempted invasion in 55-54BC and the power of its army - Who were the Celts and what impact did the Romans have on their army?

Compare human and physical features of England and Rome - What was life like in Rome? How is that similar/different to life in England? What physical features support the needs of early Roman settlers?

 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Spanish</b></p> <p>Giant Class will continue Spanish lessons this year. These lessons will be taught weekly.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>RE</b></p>  <p>During RE, children will focusing on Christian and Muslim beliefs. We will be exploring beliefs, places of worship, symbols and religious leaders and festivals.</p>
 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Music</b></p> <p>The children will explore performing in singing sessions, every other week. They will also develop solo and ensemble performances in weekly Music sessions taught by the Secondary phase, while developing an understanding of the history of Roman music.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Computing</b></p>  <p>This term, the children will be learning about programming. They will learn about algorithms to create and debug their own programmes, as well as develop their knowledge on E-Safety.</p> <p>E-Safety: internet research Digital Footprint Inappropriate file sharing Downloading Software Spam</p>
 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PE</b></p> <p>On a Thursday afternoon, pupils will be taught PE by the Secondary phase. In the first half of the term, the children will taught Invasion Games. In the second half of the term Giant class will be taught Gymnastics.</p> <p>Pupils will need to wear to school the appropriate PE kits required on Thursday instead of their normal school uniform. We will endeavour to have these lessons outside as much as possible so please ensure that children have jogging bottoms and trainers.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Art and DT</b></p>  <p>Giant Class in Art lessons will be exploring Roman Frescos - exploring designs in Roman Villas. We will be creating our own Fresco, by developing observational skills and explore colours and painting techniques to use.</p> <p>In DT lessons, the children will questioning - How did Roman catapults work? They will design and test their own catapult design to explore: How can we Investigate the size of force required to operate a catapult?</p>

### Reading

Within school, your child is involved in a number of reading activities, including daily Guided Reading or phonics sessions.

Pupils should continue to read regularly at home, at least 4 times a week, choosing from a wide range of texts. If children choose to read independently, please keep an eye on this at home and encourage discussion with your child about what they have read.



Please record and sign all reading, whether independent or with an adult, in the children's Reading Records. If your child has read at least 4 times in one week, they will

receive a star sticker in their Reading Record, which will contribute towards a whole class target. Please send Reading Records in to school on Wednesday.

We will be changing books on a Wednesday, during our allocated library time in the secondary library.

### **Drinks and Snacks**

KS2 no longer fall under the 'School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme' so please provide a fruit-based snack for your child to have at break times. Children will be encouraged to keep hydrated and have access water at all times throughout the school day. Children will need to ensure they have a named water bottle in school at all times.



### **Art**

Please can children have a named, old shirt/apron in school at all times to use for art activities.

### **Medication**

Any medication that your child should be receiving (of which the school office has been informed) must be in school at all times. Please check it is in date and it is labelled clearly with their full name - Thank you.

We are looking forward to this year ahead and can not wait to start teaching Year 5!

All communication from September onwards will be via Synergy or uploaded via our school website. If you feel that you have any further questions then please do contact the school office and we will get back to you.

Mrs Goulding (Class Teacher) and Miss Gisbey.