



Welcome back and happy New Year

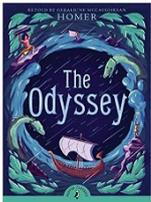
## Otters and Pine Martens!



Here is a brief overview of **Spring Term 1 2019**:

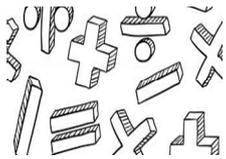


**TOPIC:** During term 3, we will begin a new topic, 'Groovy Greeks'. We will locate Greece on a map then learn about the huge influence that the Ancient Greeks had on the western world: the city-states of Athens and Sparta, learning about democracy, myths, legends, gods and goddesses, lifestyle, food and the ancient Olympics.



**ENGLISH:** Our English will be based around Homer's epic quest story, 'The Odyssey'. We will develop narratives, letters and diary entries based on the text, pictures and film clips. The book also forms the basis for our daily **whole-class guided reading sessions** where we will explore the story in further detail through drama, discussion and by honing our inference skills.

**READING:** All children should be reading daily at home. After lunch every day we have a 15 minute **silent reading session** and strongly encourage the children to bring in their current home reading book. Please check the website for author and book recommendations (<https://www.thetynings.co.uk/children-and-classes/upperKS2>). **Grammar skills and spelling sessions** (known as SPaG) take place daily with weekly **spelling tests on Fridays**. Please check the website for spelling lists. Wrong spelling words from the morning's test will be corrected by your child during Friday lunchtime.



**MATHS:** We will focus on fractions and decimals, both mental strategies and formal written methods. All of the skills will be taught then applied to solving multi-step word problems. There will also be lots of input on mental agility – keep practising with your times tables, number bonds, mental addition and subtraction etc. **Times table tests will be on Fridays**. Remember to use Mathletics at home.



**P.E.** A polite reminder - please ensure you have your **complete named kit at all times** (navy or black shorts, **house T-shirt**, trainers/daps, tracksuit bottoms and jumper for outdoor lessons). Girls' hair **MUST** be tied back and all jewellery, including stud earrings, removed or covered with tape. We will have one weekly outdoor session of outdoor team games **with a sports coach on**

**Thursdays** and hockey **on Tuesdays**.



**A huge thank you** to all the volunteers who walked up and back with us to swimming, come rain or shine, we couldn't have gone without your support.

**PPA:** Coach Ollie and Bristol Sport will cover PPA on **Thursday mornings for Health squad**. This will involve one lesson of theory and one practical session each week. We are very excited that members of the Bristol Flyers basketball team will be supporting Coach Ollie! Consequently, forest school clothes will not be needed in Spring 1.



**WATER BOTTLES:** Our brains will be challenged in Year 5! Please bring a **full water bottle** in every day to keep you alert and hydrated.

**Homework:** Thank you for your continued support with homework. We will continue to give spellings, maths and English homework every Friday, to be marked together in class the following Friday.

We **LOVED** your creativity in making the alien worlds. Watch this space for the Ancient Greek home-learning project...

**AND FINALLY...** Please do not hesitate to see us if you have any problems or concerns

Mrs Ponsford (Pine Martens) and Miss Hudson (Otters)

Dates for your diary (so far):

Mon 7<sup>th</sup> Jan INSET

Tues 8<sup>th</sup> Jan Term 3 begins

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> Feb break up for half term