

Curriculum Newsletter

Summer Term 2025

Junior Class

'The Rise of the Romans'



The Roman Empire, a vast and influential civilization, offers a rich topic for exploration. From their impressive architecture to their complex political system, the Romans left an indelible mark on history. This topic delves into their triumphs, challenges, and lasting legacy, inviting us to discover the everyday lives of ordinary citizens and the grand achievements of emperors.

English

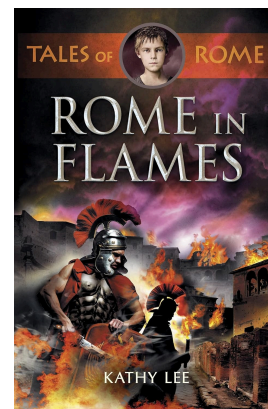


This term during our English lessons, our young writers will develop their descriptive and non-narrative skills through a series of engaging projects. Our first piece we are going to write will be a balanced argument based on the story King Kong by Anthony Browne. The children will have the opportunity to immerse themselves in the emotive text and use this as a basis in researching facts about gorillas and arguments for and against them being kept in captivity. Our second piece will be a narrative allowing the opportunity for the children to use their imaginations and creativity and skills in using adventurous vocabulary to grab the reader's interest. During each of these projects, children will continue to develop their grammar skills and apply more creative and advanced grammatical structures and vocabulary within their independent writing.

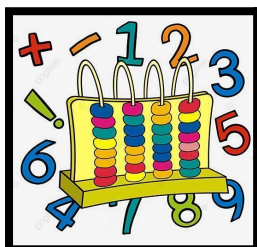
Class Story

Linking to our topic 'The Rise of the Romans', our class book this term is 'Rome in Flames' by Kathy Lee

At the start of book 2 in the Tales of Rome series, we find 13-year-old Bryn working a baker's shop in Rome but still dreaming of returning to his British homeland. Nero has been emperor for ten years and many fear him. Nero particularly dislikes Christians, who worship their own God instead of the emperor, and has had some arrested and killed. A great fire breaks out in the city, and Bryn and his friends escape to the outskirts, to the home of a rich slave-trader, Septimus. Bryn returns to the city to see the damage and finds a city in ruins. However, he also sees members of Nero's own Praetorian Guard setting fire to houses. Rumours fly that the Emperor has had the fire started deliberately in order to clear ground to build a grand new palace, but others blame the Christians. Bryn is amongst those arrested. Nero wants to round up a hundred Christians and have them set alight as a mighty spectacle. Will Bryn and his friends survive?



Maths



This term in maths, our primary focus will be on mastering measurements, focussing on mass and capacity and decimals and fractions. As the term progresses, students will delve into the world of shape and statistics honing their skills through engaging activities and applying these skills in multi-step problems. Throughout this term the children will also continue with their learning of times tables and the four operations.

Science

Our young scientists will kick off by exploring light. They'll investigate light sources and how we see. The children will then have the opportunity to use what they have learnt about light to investigate shadows.

After half term, the focus will shift to investigating electricity where there will be an opportunity to investigate and create circuits.



PE

Children will need to ensure they come into school wearing their PE kits every Wednesday.

This term's focus will be on hitting and striking games and athletics, offering students the opportunity to hone their skills, teamwork, and sportsmanship. Children will engage in dynamic activities that promote physical fitness and coordination. The PE sessions promise to be both challenging and enjoyable, fostering a love for sports and encouraging a healthy, active lifestyle. Children will continue to be taught by Adam from



Exeter City Football Club every Wednesday afternoon for the Summer term. The children will also be swimming throughout this term.

Enrichment: Forest School, Art, Design and Technology, RE, Music and Computing

On Thursday and Friday afternoons, we will be immersing ourselves in many aspects of the curriculum - making trebuchets, designing and making mosaics, contemplating how science and religion fit together when looking at creation, programming in Computing and using technology in music to create some 'Hip Hop Beats'. We will cover these in blocks and will also be putting in some Forest School after half term.

French



Children will be taught by our specialist French teacher Madame Wilkinson for the first half of the term. The topics are parts of the body, colours and descriptions of people.

Please help your children at home by:

1. Encouraging them to complete their homelearning weekly and choose from the topic homelearning tasks.
2. Practising times tables and the related division facts using Times Tables Rock Stars
3. Listening to them read regularly, talking about the books read and encouraging children to record their reading in their reading record books as well as take quizzes on Accelerated Reader.

Homework:

Children will be given homelearning each week on a Friday to be handed in on the following Thursday. They will also be given multiple topic related homework activities termly which will be optional for children to complete. Children will be rewarded for their efforts in completing these activities.