

Dear Parents/Carers of Hornbill class,
Welcome to the new school year! We hope you all had a great break, and we're very happy to welcome you and your child into their new class. Our overall topic for the first half term is The Romans. Many aspects of the curriculum will be linked to this topic.

English

Our first text for writing this year is the Roman myth, *Romulus and Remus*, which the children will be retelling in their own words. We will be reading and analysing *Varjak Paw*, a wonderful adventure story about a cat, which includes themes identity, friendship, courage and belonging.

Maths

The children will be extending and securing their understanding of 4-digit numbers, what each digit means and mental addition and subtraction strategies. They will learn to use written methods for addition and subtraction of 3- and 4-digit numbers. We will also spend time recapping and consolidating rapid recall of 2x, 3x, 4x, 5x, 10x tables including inverse operations.

Science

Our Science focus this half term is life processes in particular the digestive system, teeth and making comparisons between humans and other animals.

Art/Music/Dance/Drama

In Art, the children will create 2D and 3D mosaics and in Music they will create volcano soundscapes. Drama will be included in English and based on *Romulus and Remus* and *Varjak Paw*.

History/Geography

We will locate the Roman Empire historically, learn about Roman Britain and make comparisons with modern Britain. We will look at the vast geographical area that the Roman Empire invaded and conquered.

PSHME

We will focus on friends, coping with change and families.

RE

We will be learning about Judaism and the holy day of Shabbat.

ICT

The children will research volcanoes and create PowerPoints about them.

DT

The children will explore, design and make photo frames.

MFL

We are going to focus on the music, dance, geography and history of Columbia.

P.E.

In PE we will be learning and practising ball and invasions skills in Tag Rugby ball and out indoor PE is dance.



Please read with your child every day at home (10-15 minutes) and where possible from a variety of texts.

Please ensure that their reading response books and book bags come to school in book bags **every day**.

Hornbill PE days: Tuesday and Thursday
Please come to school wearing appropriate clothing for PE (trainers, leggings/shorts/tracksuit bottoms, t-shirt, sweatshirt or hoodie).

Year 4 Home learning:
Each week, Year 4 work will be posted onto Itslearning. Maths and English tasks will change weekly, and in addition, there will be a half termly project, due in the last week of the half term.

Me Books
Inside your child's Me Books there will be a grid with nine tasks. Children will complete seven (one for each week of the half term), or all nine tasks. Me Books should be kept in reading bags and brought into school each day, as we will be sharing them from time to time throughout the half term.

Other Class Information:
We are currently organising a visit to the London Mithraerium, which includes an exciting guided tour of 3 Roman sites. We are also hoping to secure a visit from the History Man who provides highly engaging, hands-on workshops where the children, for example, build 2m-long Roman catapults and a section of Roman road. A virtual visit to the British museum is also being organized. Please remember to pay your £20 annual fee so that these experiences can take place. Thanks!