



# Year 4 News

## Autumn 2

### November 2025



Phoenixes, welcome back to school for another fun-filled term of learning! We hope you all had a good half term and are ready to rise to the challenge of new learning ahead of you.

## Are we still living in the shadow of the Ancient Greeks? - Continued.

Our focus book this half term is **Who let the gods out** by Maz Evans. We will follow Elliot's adventures as he meets a feisty constellation and unleashes a monstrous demon.

In English, we will explore the life of Alexander the Great and discover what he is famous for. Using this newly discovered knowledge, we will write our own biographies to inform the reader. During whole class reading sessions we will focus on the class novel to support our vocabulary and comprehension development and then write a detailed description of a chosen character to entertain the reader.

In Maths we will continue to develop number fact fluency by practising and recalling times tables. In lessons the children will be working on multiplication and division calculation strategies as well as area. We will revisit addition and subtraction calculation strategies from Autumn term 1 to make sure we have remembered the new Y4 learning.

History is our topic focus and the children will continue to learn about the Ancient Greek civilisation and discover that Ancient Greece was the first democracy! They will complete a Greek pottery art project. Look out for our gallery at the end of term!

Our Science lessons will complete the study of States of Matter and look closely at the water cycle and its key processes; evaporation, condensation and precipitation. We will find out about how water moves across the land and sea through runoff, and that the cycle is a continuous process.

In Music we are going to continue working with Nathan from the Music Hub to learn to play trumpets and trombones. Now we have learnt how to hold and produce sounds, we will focus on creating music together as a class.

In Computing sessions, we are going to be learning how to create media by producing a podcast. The children will learn how to edit their work, add tracks, open and save sound files and finally evaluate their work.

In JIGSAW PSHE, our theme for the half term is 'Celebrating Difference'. The children will talk about bullying, including online bullying and what to do if they suspect or know that it is taking place. They will share their own uniqueness and what is special about them.

In RE we will be learning to answer the enquiry question: 'What is the most significant part of the Nativity story for Christians today?'

## REMINDERS

**PE** will be basketball sessions on Friday afternoons.

Please remember your kit and to come to school in suitable footwear such as trainers for running and dodging.

### Reading

Remember your child should read at home each day to develop skills and a love of books. Bring reading books and adult signed diaries to school every day. Aim for at least 3 signatures each week for our reading recognition awards.

### Times Tables Rock Stars

Encourage your child to use TTRS for 3 minutes a day to boost their number fluency. Practice makes perfect!

Look out for **MyMaths** practice challenges to help your child practise and remember new maths learning.

Please ensure you support your child to looking on **Spelling Shed** each week for your weekly spelling pattern and key words.

### Other key information and key dates for your diary:

- 10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> Nov – Anti-Bullying Week
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Odd Socks Day
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Children in Need Day
- 10<sup>th</sup> Dec – Christmas dinner
- 16<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Party
- 19<sup>th</sup> – Break up for holiday
- 5<sup>th</sup> Jan – Back to School

## What can you do to support your child's learning?

- 1) Listen to them read. Log their reading in their reading diary.
- 2) Encourage them to use My Maths.
- 3) Help your child continue to learn their times tables. Using Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS)
- 4) Log into Spelling Shed and practice the weekly spellings.
  - ❖ Don't forget the Oxford Owl website has some great online reading activities and books to share.
  - ❖ Spelling lists are on Spelling Shed. Please help your child practice these as it really helps them become more confident with their reading and writing.

Thank you,

Jane Loughran and Jenny Hodgkinson

### Contacting the year 4 team

We are at the classroom door at drop off and pick up times and are always happy to say hello or have a quick chat.

Call the office to pass on a message or ask for a call back. 0115 9152953

Email: [year4@dovecote.nottingham.sch.uk](mailto:year4@dovecote.nottingham.sch.uk)

Don't forget to download the Marvellous Me app and keep an eye on the website and Facebook page, for up-to-date information and key messages.

