



Akrotiri School

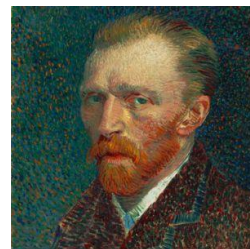
Y5R

Mr Reader

Van Gogh Class

Spring Term 1 - Information Guide

1st Half Term 2017



Our learning this term

Our topic is 'Beast Creator'

English – Our focus this half term will be on non-chronological reports and limericks / kennings. This will involve analysing a range of non-fiction texts to highlight the key features, moving on to figurative language in poetry.

Maths – We will continue the year by initially focusing on statistics and the associated forms of data presentation, before moving on to consider fractions (including decimals and percentages) as a means of expressing proportions.

Science – Our 'Beast Creator' topic will help us develop our scientific understanding through an imaginative learning project with cross-curriculum links. This will involve exploring living things and their habitats.

Other subjects – Our art and design work will focus heavily on drawing and in particular, perspective. Design and Technology will focus on model making of our minibeasts, whilst geography will focus on local fieldwork and investigations of contrasting locations.

VISITS AND ENRICHMENT

The children's DARE programme will conclude this half-term and will involve a graduation ceremony to which parents will be invited. To help children engage with our half-termly topic, we will commence with a trip to Pafos Zoo to introduce the idea of minibeasts and their habitats. This half-term will also see plenty of sporting opportunities with the much anticipated (if delayed) cross country competition, a netball competition and the start of the always popular after-school football clubs which will conclude with a mini tournament.

HOMEWORK: A new homework sheet has been attached to the inside front cover of homework books with varying levels of challenge. Homework books will be sent home on a Friday and should be brought into school on a weekly basis when completed.

HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD

Please support your child with their homework and encourage them to aim high and produce neat work of a good standard. Please also read with / listen to your child reading regularly (at least 1 hour a week) and comment and sign in the reading diary. Remember to question them about what they have read and make it a pleasurable experience.

USEFUL INFORMATION

PE: Every Monday and Thursday

French: Lessons will recommence this half-term with both the class teachers and Mrs Underwood. They are very popular with children, so expect your child to start conversing with you in French shortly!

READING (New reading records have been issued)

Spring 1 – It is important that your child's reading book and reading record comes into school **every day**. They will work with an adult to improve their reading skills at least once a week through guided reading sessions and in other lessons.

Our focus text this half term, in line with our Beast Creator topic, will be E.B. White's, *Charlotte's Web*. Please encourage your child to read at home (book supplied).

SPELLING: A spelling list will be sent home each Monday and tested the following Monday. The whole school spelling improvement 'drive' continues and we ask that you support your child at home also (to promote the importance of accurate spelling.) Collectively, we are focussing on Year 5 spellings from the National Curriculum but individually children may be set other spellings.

MENTAL MATHS FOCUS

In class we are still focussing on a weekly maths mountain times table challenge and ask that you encourage your child to practice at home to build confidence, resilience and speed.

Details of online MyMaths challenges will continue to be notified on ClassDojo.