

11 December 2024

Dear Parents

In Spring 1, the children have a history focus on Ancient Greece. We have invited Portals to the Past to provide a Life in Ancient Greece Day in the school on **Thursday 23 January 2025**. The voluntary contribution for the day is **£7** per child, which will go towards the whole day of learning.

Portals to the Past is a company which provides immersive and practical History, Science and Literature workshops to schools. The workshop, which will take place in the school hall during normal school hours, will give us a feeling of what it was like to be a Greek in ancient times.

On the day, the morning workshop consists of a short introduction to Greek life and culture, followed by four engaging activities:

- A Greek quiz, with loads of fun Greek facts for the children to discover
- Archimedes' Stomachion – the oldest known mathematical puzzle
- Petteia, the Greek strategy game
- Myths and legends – the children are transported to a Greek theatre where they re-enact Greek myths and legends

In the afternoon, there will be a demonstration from a Greek warrior. Then the differences between the city states of Athens and Sparta are explored, the children take a lesson in democracy, which is followed by a mini Olympic Games. The great battle of Gaugamela between Alexander the Great and King Darius will round off an engaging and fun day.

A simple costume will help your child feel part of the day. Here are some ideas:

- **Tunic for boys/Chiton for girls:** This can be a simple white dress for girls or a large white T-shirt for boys and girls. You can also make one from a pillowcase, or even an old sheet: fold it over, stitch up the sides and cut a hole at the top for your head. Boys can wear with a belt, cord or sash around the waist, while girls may wear with a simple thin apron.
- **Himation:** Fasten a rectangle of coloured cloth with a brooch or button on the left shoulder.

We need a few adult helpers during the day for each class, and we welcome your participation. If you are able to attend, please complete the [google form](#) and we will offer these places on a first come, first served basis.

Best wishes

Year 4 Team