

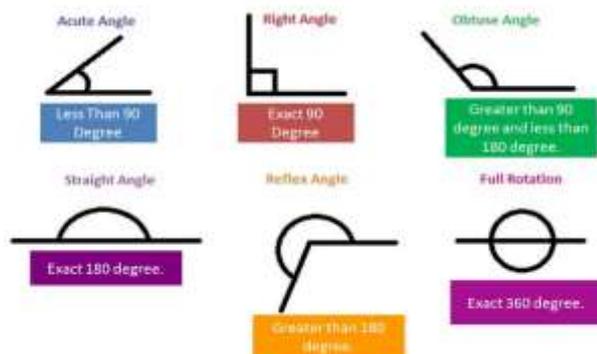


Danube Class Friday 18th May 2018

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We have had a very busy but exciting week. We have been taking every opportunity to rehearse for our May dance and have been enjoying Charlotte's Web in guided reading. Roman day on Thursday was a great success. We began by trying to decode a message written in Roman numerals, which we subsequently learned was one of Caesar's most famous quotes. The morning was then spent looking at mosaics and creating our own on plates - for future reference we are now great at grouting! We then went on to carefully copy our Roman shield designs on to cardboard, ready to be painted. The children worked extremely hard and meticulously on this. It was lovely to see them supporting and advising each other. We started to paint these today and they will be displayed in the classroom. During an interval from shield making, we were visited by Kevin, our excellent Roman expert, whose workshop all the children loved. They were shocked by stories of slavery and how poor hygiene was; excited when trying on Roman armour, helmets and holding a real sword; and fascinated by maps of ancient Rome and intriguing artefacts such as a tool designed to amputate limbs. Thank you so much to all of you who contributed to this and made it possible.

We have moved on from data handling in maths this week and have began a unit of work on shapes. The week started with the children demonstrating their current understanding of the different types of angles (as pictured below).



They then worked to make different angles with straws, identify natural angles on the field and draw shapes with specific types of angles. We then moved on to compare angles of different sizes up to two right angles in size. They used right angles checkers and their understanding of the different types of angles to order angles by their size. Do ask your child to identify different angles when you're out and about and try to use the language to help familiarise them with it.

We have also began a new topic in literacy, moving on from eye witness accounts to look at myths and legends and play scripts. Earlier on in the term we did a play of Romulus and Remus, a myth explaining the foundation of Rome and it definitely captured the imaginations of the class, so we have returned to it for some focused work. We started the week by exploring the difference between myths and legends. We had a range of different responses, all with equally valid arguments to support their case. We then looked at the opening scene from a play of the story and discussed the features of a play script, such as stage directions being in italics, props lists, characters names, use of colons etc. Today we looked at the script in its entirety except for the finale scene and had a go at performing it with a focus on reading with expression. Next week we will continue with this and the children will have a go at writing the final scene of the play.

Important notices:

1. **Monday 21st May (next Monday) is Aurelio's last day. Danube class will not be having lunch, we will be having packed lunch at the nature reserve with an Italian theme, children will also be showing their talents at our talent show.**
2. Planning for our residential to Hillend is well under way and we are hoping to be able to send out letters soon. We will be holding an after school meeting prior to the children attending and information about when this will be will also be shared imminently. The dates for the trip are: the 25th and 26th June. Please do let me know if you have any concerns.
3. May day is on Friday 25th May from 1:30 to 2:30. The children have been working really hard on their dance and are very excited about it. I look forward to seeing many of you on the day.

As always, if you have any concerns or queries please send me an email.

[\(bcra1989@st-ebbes.oxon.sch.uk\)](mailto:bcra1989@st-ebbes.oxon.sch.uk)

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

Betty Cranham.

Important dates:

International evening date has been moved to 5th July

25th May: May Day Dancing (Last day of term)

25th and 26th June: Hill End Residential