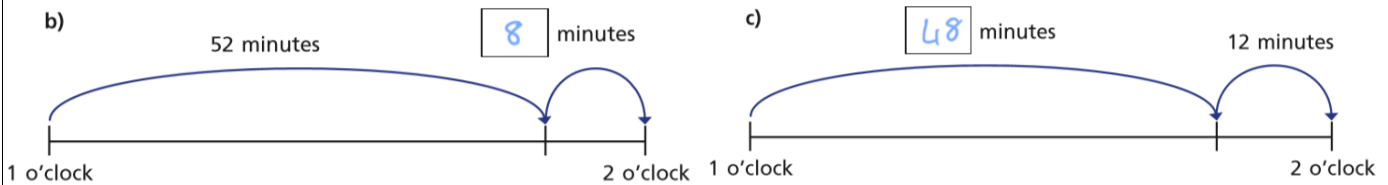




Year Three answers 3/7/20

Maths



English

Why do we say:

- 'A Herculean effort'- Heracles (or Hercules as the Romans called him) had to put in a huge amount of effort to win his challenges. A Herculean effort is when something has taken a huge amount of effort to do.
- 'You've got the Midas touch'- In the myth 'King Midas and the Golden Touch', everything King Midas touched turned into gold. Although by the end of the myth he realises that this is in fact a terrible thing, we say someone has the Midas touch if they're lucky in everything they do.
- 'It's my Achilles heel'- The Greek hero Achilles was made immortal (which means nothing could kill him) when he was dipped into the river Styx by his mother. However, she held him by the heel when she dipped him in, so the magical waters didn't touch it. Achilles was killed when an arrow pierced his heel- the only part of him that was vulnerable. We say something is our Achilles heel when it is our particular weakness.

Which parts of Greek mythology do these words come from? (And what do they mean?)

- Atlas- Atlas (who we met in the Heracles myth) was a giant who, as a punishment from Zeus, was made to hold up the Earth. The Greeks believed it was resting on his shoulders. The books we have which contain maps of the world are called atlases, named after him.
- Panic- The Greek god, Pan, was god of the countryside and shepherds. He loved to hide in the trees and make terrifying screeching noises to scare people nearby who would run away. When we are afraid of something and want to run, we call it panic. I love how long this word has lasted, just based on a god who enjoyed giving people a fright!
- Titanic- The Titans were who ruled Earth before the gods did. They were immense, dangerous giants. We say something is titanic if it is of a huge size.
- Siren- Sirens were half bird, half women creatures who would sit on rocks and sing beautiful songs. Sailors passing by in their ships were lured in by the beautiful music... only for their ships to crash on dangerous rocks and wreck their ships. We use sirens now to tell us that danger is near.

I'm going to give you one more challenge. Have you found any more examples of uses of Greek mythology in our everyday language? If you have, send me them on Facebook. I wonder if you can find any that I don't already know? I love learning new things about Greek myths!

Foundation Subject – History

I found this quite hard to decide because a lot of these are things that I actually think are very valuable to our society in Britain today and we just wouldn't be the same without them! I think the three most important are laws, sanitation and education but I'd probably say that laws are the one thing that is the most important. I'd have loved to have done this lesson in school with you because I know we'd have been able to have a great debate about this and try to convince each other to agree with our point of view! I wonder whether you agree with my choices?