

## MAIN LESSON ACTIVITY

Good Morning Class 5,

We have a fun activity today! Before I introduce it I'd like to just remind about some parts of the story yesterday.

Yesterday Helen was influenced by Aphrodite to leave her home and husband, King Menelaus, and go to Troy with Paris. To King Menelaus and all the Greeks, it appeared that Paris has come for a visit and abducted his wife which, by anyone's standards, is a very rude thing to do. Remembering that all the Greek Kings had pledged to protect King Menelaus and Helen when they got married, everyone started to suit up for war, board ships and head over to Troy to bring Helen back.

There were two heroes who didn't want to go however; Odysseus and Achilles. Odysseus and his wife Penelope had a newborn baby boy at home and so he behaved insane in order not to go to join the fight, but when the messenger put his baby in front of Odysseus's plough which he was using to sow salt, Odysseus moved him and thereby proved he was not mad and fit for war.

Achilles was not part of the promise to protect Menelaus and Helen at the time, so he and his mother, a sea nymph, didn't consider it his duty to go to war. Achilles was disguised as a woman by his Mother and taken to become a serving girl for a king's daughter, which was his hiding place.

However he was discovered when a trick was played on him by Odysseus, and instead of running as the other serving girls did at the sign of danger, he reached for the spear and shield in readiness to fight.

So Odysseus, Menelaus, Achilles and many other heroes sailed to Troy.

So for your activity today we're going to take the part of the story where Achilles was dressed as a serving woman and had to fulfil this role to stay in hiding, and you are going to do a very similar thing! If you are at school, this task will have to wait until you are at home again, you can complete it tonight.

If you are a boy, I would like you to dress in women's clothing and if you are a girl, I would like you to dress in men's clothing and for the whole day, you are going to make (or at least, help to make) all the meals in the house until dinner time, and help with all the household tasks, after you have finished your schoolwork.

Yes that's right!! So your activity is to ask a sister, brother, Mum or Dad if you can borrow some clothes for the day, and you can get as dressed up as you like, but try to think of really disguising yourself as Achilles had to – he didn't want anyone guessing he was a young man! So girls, perhaps you put your hair up under a cap or hat, or plait it neatly down your back... boys, perhaps you wear a skirt today, or a headband... you can make this as fun as you like and your whole family can join in if they want to but despite all the laughter and perhaps feeling quite different to your normal self, you will have to get all your schoolwork, cooking and house tasks done in this outfit, so make sure it's practical and that you have checked with the owner.

If you would like to, please send me a picture of you going about any of these tasks in your outfit, and I will put it up on the website! I will only photos on the website if I receive pictures from at least 5 different people, so you know for sure that you won't be the only one sending in a photo for all to see!

Hope you have some fun playing around with this activity today, I hope to see photos from as many of you as I can!!