



**Year 4 Autumn Term 2023
Ancient Egypt**



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new academic year! I'm incredibly excited to take on the responsibility of teaching this enthusiastic class, and I know we will have a terrific year full of quality learning.

Our new learning theme for this half term will be based on Ancient Egypt, and will look at the following line of enquiry: What did the Ancient Egyptians believe about the afterlife?

Below is an outline of what we will be learning and ways you can help at home.

Supporting learning at home:

- Encourage your child to read every day. We would love children to access a range of genres in their reading at home, including poetry, non-fiction and fiction. It would be wonderful if children could visit the library to research more about the Ancient Egyptians to further develop their understanding of the topic.
- Support and encourage your child to learn their spellings each week; little and often is best. Our weekly spelling test will be on Thursdays, and the spelling lists for this half term is available for most children on Google Classroom (some children will have them written in their spelling books).
- Children will be set one piece of maths homework to complete each week. Whilst I would encourage the children to complete this independently, please feel free to support your child with their homework. If there is anything they don't understand, please ask your child to come and speak to me for additional help **before** the homework is due in.
- This half term, the children will also have a homework project to complete about Ancient Egypt. More information will be provided about this next week.
- Please encourage children to take pride in their appearance by wearing correct school uniform. Hair bands should black, white or red. Nail varnish is not permitted. Shoes should smart and completely black. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Dates for the Diary

- Thursday 7th September – Ancient Egypt day with Mr. Egypt
- Wednesday 25th October & Thursday 26th October – Parents' Evenings

Each week

- This half term, children will have P.E. on Mondays and Fridays. Please help to ensure they have the correct kit in school on these days.
- Spelling tests will be every Thursday.
- Times table test will be every Friday.
- Homework will be set on a Thursday and due in on the following Tuesday.

Please remember to come and talk to us anytime if you need to discuss anything.

Mr. Sowards & Mrs. McWhirter

English

In English we will be learning to:

- Use a range of punctuation accurately
- Expand noun phrases regularly
- Use features of a narrative
- Use thesauruses to further improve vocabulary choice
- Use range of descriptive features to describe characters and settings
- To use suitable words and phrases to link and build cohesion between paragraphs
- Select and use suitable presentational and organisational features for a newspaper report

Most of our English work this half term will be based around the book *The Ancient Egypt Sleepover* by Stephen Davies.

Maths

In maths, we will be learning the following skills through a range of fluency and reasoning & problem solving activities:

- To read, write, compare and order numbers up to 100,000
- Recognise place value in any number up to 100,000
- Round numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1,000
- Add and subtract two numbers using the column method
- Tackle maths investigations based on their knowledge of number

Spanish



We are delighted to have Mrs. Del Rio teaching our Spanish this year. She will be planning and co-ordinating the curriculum, and will begin by going over key Spanish greetings and conversation.

Art



To link to our Ancient Egypt topic, we will be looking at how to create models using clay and will create our own canopic jars. We'll also learn how to make marks on clay for decoration.

Science



Our science this half term will be looking at sound, including how sound is made, how we detect sound and learning how to create different pitches and volumes.

P.E.



Our P.E. coaches will be teaching handball this half term, and the lessons with Mr. Swards will be looking at developing football skills such as dribbling, passing and shooting.

P.S.H.E



We will be learning about how to stay safe, our early warning signs and the rights and responsibilities we have as people in our ever-changing world.

R.E.



In RE, we will be looking at why Jesus and Moses are sources of inspiration to both religious and non-religious people. We will also think about what makes someone inspirational to us.

History



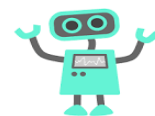
The focus this half term will be about life and death in Ancient Egypt, especially discovering what they believed about the afterlife. We'll be looking at their beliefs, practices, key buildings and artefacts all associated Egypt.

Geography



In Geography, we will be looking at the importance of the River Nile to people both in Ancient Egypt and today. We'll look at what a river's course is, and then track the course of the River Nile through today's African countries.

Computing



We will be learning how to use the Google suite to create documents and slide presentations, as well as understanding what is meant by collaborative working.