



"Pharaohs"

We begin this term with another History topic: "Pharaohs" which takes us back in time 5000 years to Ancient Egypt. We will explore the world of mysteries and curses, mummies and kings, and will build up a time-line to show how ancient Egyptian civilisation developed. This topic will allow us to unravel the secrets of ancient tombs, using historical sources and age-old artefacts. The children will be encouraged to ask key historical questions and to present relevant answers, which can be supported with evidence. They will be encouraged to describe how different types of evidence tells us different things about the past.

In English, our genres will be instructions, news reports and mystery stories, although as always there will be the opportunity for the children to choose their own genre in their writing too. Through our English the children will develop their understanding and knowledge about Ancient Egypt, alongside key skills of spoken language, reading and writing. We will continue with our spellings groups each day, and will also focus on grammar in preparation for the end of key stage assessments for year 6. Year 6 will also have various exercises to work on at home in preparation for the Reading Comprehension and Punctuation and Grammar tests.

In Mathematics, we must complete our work on Division before we then begin a large unit on fractions, decimals and percentages which will continue into next half term too. The children must continue to practice their times tables regularly in order to make full use of them in their maths. We will do weekly mental maths tests too, as this will help to keep all the elements of Mathematics ticking over! In the latter part of the week with Mr Rogers, the children will move onto a unit of work on Perimeter, Area and Volume before looking at coordinates.

In Geography the children will locate Egypt on a world map and will explore the landscape and significant geographical features of the region. They will find out about the River Nile and if there is time, they will be able to produce a tourist's guide to Egypt. The children will use some of their Computing skills to research information about Ancient Egypt using various search technologies, and will also use various presentation software to help them to share information with others.

In Art and DT this half term, there will be several opportunities for the children to draw and create colourful and decorative pieces of artwork, and to combine a range of media within a piece of work. Innovate Week (wb 5th February) will allow the children to continue this too. The children will be encouraged to evaluate their work and to consider how different techniques and effects have impacted on the final piece. Our MFL sessions this half term, will focus on parts of the body and we will recap on colours. We will learn new vocabulary and speak and write in sentences.

In PE the children will be swimming on a Thursday completing that vital area of the national curriculum. On Friday the children will be developing their net and wall skills with table tennis which is both enjoyable and challenging. In RE we will move onto a unit of work studying another major world religion: Hinduism. The unit of work will explore the Hindu belief of achieving 'Moksha', and the pathways to this, written in Hindu scriptures.

In Science, the children will be continuing to explore electricity, but this time turning their attention to the properties of materials such as their conductivity. They will also learn about other properties of materials such as their hardness and flexibility. In addition, the children will develop their skills of working scientifically through investigations and testing.

Mrs Dommett will continue to teach Computing on Wednesday afternoons when Mr Rogers and Mrs Martin have shared PPA time. The topic this half term is "Creating media - Introduction to vector graphics." The children will learn how to use different drawing tools to help them create images using Goole Drawings. It sounds great fun!

This is an incredibly short half term, so it will be a very busy time, especially as we will now begin to prepare Year 6 for their end of Key Stage tests in May.