

Year 5 Curriculum Letter - Spring Half Term 2 2024

Our theme for Spring 2 is:

Ancient Egypt

Our main focuses are:

- To find out about how life was different in Ancient Egyptian times.
- To discover who the pharaohs were and why they had pyramids built for them.

Our theme will last for:

4 weeks

French

This half term, we will be talking about clothes. We will be asking and answering question such as: What do you wear at different times of the year? At the weekend what do you like to wear? We will be learning lots of new, exciting vocabulary to describe our clothes!



History

We will be finding out how long ago the Ancient Egyptians were around and how things have changed between then and now. We will be discovering how differently pharaohs and slaves lived and why. The children will also be finding out about the importance of the River Nile and exploring what happened to the ancient Egyptians.

Computing

This half term we will be using scratch to create an Egyptian mummy game. We will be learning how to control the movement of the mummy by designing algorithms.

Music

In Music, we will be looking at the song 'The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air'. We will look at the dimensions of music (pitch, rhythm, pitch) and using singing and instruments to improvise and compose with this song.

P.E.

For P.E. this half term, we will be developing our competitive spirit through basketball. Please ensure that you bring in your P.E. kit and water bottle on P.E. days. Our P.E. day is **Thursday**. Please ensure that your child has an **indoor and outdoor** P.E. kit at school.



English:

For this topic, we will be focussing on a mixture of non-fiction texts all about Egypt.

We will focus on our grammar and sentence construction, which we will use to help us write extracts of non-fiction texts. Using exciting examples of these text types, we will be writing:

- A diary from the perspective of a slave and a Pharaoh
- A recount of the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb

We will also be building on our reading skills throughout the half term, as we look at example texts to help us with our own understanding.



Personal, Social, Health and Education (P.S.H.E.)

In our P.S.H.E. lessons, we will be looking at what affects our emotional, physical and mental health. We will be looking at the impact of sleep as well as how to balance our time online.

No Outsiders

This term we will continue our 'No Outsiders' scheme. We will be looking at the book How to Heal a Broken Wing by Bob Graham. This book focuses on showing kindness to others.



Behaviour and Safety

What is respect? We will be discussing this and exploring ways to deal with conflict. This half term's British Values focus is Democracy.



Key Questions for Discussion

The children will be finding out about slavery and discussing their opinions on this matter. The Ancient Egyptians had vast differences in lifestyle and wealth between classes and so we will be asking the children if it is ok for some people to be wealthier than others.

Shared home learning:

Please encourage your child to read for 20 minutes, as a minimum, everyday. This should be logged in their reading journal on a daily basis. Our vocabulary and spellings that we will be practising and looking at over the half term will be shared via Seesaw and these can be discussed, practised and looked at whilst at home. It is always great to ask your child the definitions of words and see if they can put them into a sentence! An optional Maths. and English home will be set via Seesaw on a weekly basis. The answers for this will accompany the work and raffle tickets and rewards may be given for these by the teachers.

Key Dates:

7th March - World Book Day
7th-8th March - Book Fayre
WB 11th March - Crystal Maze Week
15th March - Comic Relief
18th March - Poetry Day

Mathematics:

This half term, we will be investigating statistics and solving number problems.

As part of these units, we will be:

- Exploring line graphs and the data they represent
- Reading and interpreting tables
- Using our practical problem solving skills during 'Crystal Maze Week'
- Multiplying and dividing whole numbers and decimals by 10, 100 and 1,000

We will be recapping these areas and applying our knowledge to a range of different problems and question types. During this half term, and throughout next year, times table knowledge will be key and therefore we would like the children to continue practising these at home in a variety of different ways. To link with the units we are doing in school, it would also be useful to discuss things like timetables with your child - how are they used? Where might you find them?



Science

This half term, we will be investigating different materials and their properties. When faced with a water 'sample' from the River Nile, the children will get the opportunity to become separating experts to obtain the purest water sample possible! We will also be exploring why some materials dissolve and others don't.

R.E.

We will be exploring Islam this half term. We will look at how people may live their lives in a different way due to their religion. We will also ask and answer questions such as: What is the Quran? Why is Calligraphy important in Islam? How is eating certain foods an expression of the Muslim faith? Why are pilgrimages important to those with a faith?



SOLUBLE AND INSOLUBLE

