



Year Four Newsletter: Spring 2 – 2022

Murder, Mystery & Mummification – Tutankhamun



Welcome to the Spring 2 half term

Welcome back. We hope you had a fantastic, fun-filled break and you are ready for an exciting and busy spring half term. This half term's theme offers lots of stimulating and interesting things to learn about and we are sure the children are going to enjoy and embrace every aspect of the half term ahead. We have plenty of important dates in the diary for this half-term. These include our whole year group visit to Cliffe Castle to explore the Ancient Egypt workshop and study the art of mummification. For those who have chosen to take part, we will be going to the School Proms to perform at St. Georges Hall. Our parent consultations will take place in March and we look forward to sharing the children's learning with you at our year group assembly.

Our Learning Theme

This half term, we will continue to explore the fascinating Ancient Egyptians and the famous boy pharaoh, Tutankhamun. We will explore the technique of mummification, make our very own Death masks and delve into the world of the many Egyptian Gods. To provide the children with an insight into life during this period, the children will take part in an interesting workshop delivered by the fantastic education team at Cliffe Castle.

Important Dates:

Wednesday 3rd March- **World Book Day**
 Friday 18th March- **Red Nose Day**
 Tuesday 22nd and 23rd March- **Parent Consultations.**
 Wednesday 23rd March- **Cliffe Castle visit.**
 Friday 1st April- **Year Four Assembly**
 Wednesday 6th April- **School Proms**

Homework

Maths and spelling homework will continue to be sent home every fortnight in the form of a Learn by Heart Target (the first one for this half term will be sent home on **Friday 4th March**). We would appreciate any help you could give your child in becoming confident and fluent in their maths and spelling targets. In addition, please could you encourage your child to practise their times tables either verbally or by using TT Rockstars online. The children will be reading in class every day, however, we would appreciate it if you could listen to your child read at home too.

Learning Log

A Learning Log activity will be sent home on **Friday 4th March** for your child to complete over this half term. This half term's learning log should be returned to school by **Monday 4th April**. Children are encouraged to follow their own line of enquiry linked to our Ancient Egyptian Topic.

PE Days

Monday Indoor - Dance
Tuesday Outdoor - Attacking and Defending
 Please continue to come to school in your PE kit on these days. Remember school colours (no football shirts) and warm kit for outdoor PE, thank you.

Curriculum

English

In English we will be reading *Secrets of a Sun King* by Emma Carroll. We will write a diary entry from the perspective of Maya, Tutankhamun's best friend in *Secrets of the Sun King*. We will then start writing our own poems based on *The River* by Valerie Bloom.

Maths

In maths, our half term focus will be fractions and decimals. We will explore equivalent fractions, adding and subtracting, calculating fractions of a quantity and problem solving. We will then move onto decimals and look at tenths and hundredths as decimals and also dividing digits by 10 and 100. We will be mastering all of our times tables, up to 12 x 12, in preparation for our times table check.

Science

Our science unit this half term will be exploring sound. We will focus on how sound is made and travels. The children will also explore how we can change the pitch and volume of sound and apply their findings to create their own musical instruments.

DT

In DT we will be following in the footsteps of the ancient Egyptians by creating Shadufs - a machine for transporting water from lower to higher levels.

History & Geography

In history, we will continue to explore the location in time of the ancient Egyptians, their achievements, daily life, and the rise and fall of the civilisation. We will explore societal roles and compare these to different eras. The children will also look at evidence and draw their own conclusions.

Computing

We will learn common commands that will move an onscreen marker to create mathematical patterns using coding and algorithms. We will also put together a simple animation using animation frames and stop motion techniques.

Other:

The children will continue with ukulele lessons on alternate Friday mornings. In RE we will be asking 'Is forgiveness always possible for Christians?' linking to the Easter story. We will be making death masks under the direction of our artist in residence, Ms Snaylam.

Year Four Team

Earhart Class – Mr Hurtault & Mrs Bagnall
 Fiennes Class- Mr Breeze & Mrs Wilson
 Mrs Thakker will be working across both classes teaching French & our artist in residence, Ms Snaylam, will deliver art across the year group.

Please feel free to contact us using the emails below.

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