

## This half-term, we are learning...

Curriculum Area	Areas to be taught in school	Possible activities to be done at home
<b>English</b>	During our English lessons this half term, we will be basing our reading & writing on texts linked with the topic of Ancient Egypt, beginning with a book we are sure the children will enjoy called 'There's a Pharaoh in my Bath' written by Jeremy Strong. We will also be using a digital literacy story about Tadeo Jones, an Egyptian explorer. These fabulous texts will inspire the children's story writing & also be a great stimulus for a factual report on the pyramids of Egypt.	Children are given time to read in school & are expected to also read at home. Exposure to a range of texts including magazines, comics, non-fiction texts, poetry etc. will help to develop their fluency & understanding. Please support your child at home by reading together as often as you can to promote a love of reading & learning.
<b>Maths</b>	In maths, the children will be taking part in weekly times tables practice tests. In lessons, we will initially be focussing on place value; including negative numbers, addition & subtraction of 4-digit numbers & using the inverse to check our answers. This will be followed by shape work, based on quadrilaterals & triangles & then converting time between analogue & digital 12- & 24-hour clocks.	By the end of Year 4, children are expected to know all of the times tables & related division facts. There are lots of ways to practise, such as online games, songs, writing them down & verbally rehearsing them. Encourage your child to use Times Tables Rockstars frequently to help improve their recall of times tables facts.
<b>Science - Physics</b>	In science, our first topic of the year is sound. We will learn about the way sound travels, how it is made, the effect volume has on the vibration & what 'pitch' is & how & why it changes. We will be taking our learning outdoors, carrying out a string telephone experiment to find out which material makes sound travel better, as well as investigating vibration, pitch & volume with a range of musical instruments.	Discuss sounds in different environments, when out & about. Can you detect sounds which are at different pitches? The children might also like to create their own string telephone using different materials at home.
<b>History</b>	Our study of Ancient Egypt will develop the children's knowledge of the achievements of this ancient civilisation. They will learn about how & where the Ancient Egyptians lived, what was important to the daily lives of Ancient Egyptians, who Tutankhamun was & how mummies were made. The children will also learn about how Egyptian people used hieroglyphs to communicate & compare the powers of different gods.	Encourage your child to discuss their learning about the Ancient Egyptian period of history so the whole family can become experts in this ancient civilisation. If you have access to the internet, find out about Howard Carter's discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun & the riches & knowledge that were uncovered.

<b>Year Group:</b> 4	<b>Class Teachers:</b> Mr Smith & Miss Schofield	<b>Term:</b> Autumn 1, 2022
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<b>Computing</b>	The children will learn what debugging is & use what they learn to debug paper algorithms. Over the weeks, they will use & investigate the different features of 'Sprite', including effects & scoring systems, which they will then use to make a quiz of their own on the topic of Ancient Egypt.	Look at different types of quizzes. Are there any effects & colours that look good, which the children may want to use in the classroom when they create their own quiz using their newly-acquired computing skills?
<b>RE</b>	We will learn about the lives of people of faith from different religions. We will identify key events in their lives, how their faith & beliefs have influenced them to care for others, & how it has inspired their lives & work. They will compare & contrast these stories before examining the role of beliefs &/or faith in their own lives.	You could discuss what other religions may do to show care for others. Does anybody at home have any involvement in, or support a charity? Discuss strategies that may be of help to them when faced with their own challenges.
<b>PE</b>	In PE, we will be learning about basketball. We will develop passing, dribbling & shooting skills. We will also look at problem solving within PE where the focus is on applying tactics and understanding what makes an effective team.	Find out about a famous basketball player or basketball team. Play basketball with a friend/parent or guardian.
<b>Music</b>	We will learn how music has brought society together throughout the ages. The children will be looking at different genres of music & learning how to listen & compose. By the end of the term, they will have learned a new song & how to play the glockenspiel.	Listen to a range of songs & discuss how these might have been composed. What instruments can you hear? Can you tap the beat? Where would they be played?
<b>Art</b>	We will look at & discuss the similarities & differences between some of Paul Gauguin's key works of art. The children will be taught different techniques for using oil pastels & use them to create a still life, in the style of Gauguin.	Practise drawing in the style of Paul Gauguin. Don't have any oil pastels? Don't worry – use something else (e.g. pens, pencils, crayons) & see how it looks!
<b>French</b>	The children will be learning to pronounce the French alphabet & be able to spell basic words using this.	Rehearse the French alphabet & see if you can label everyday objects at home with the correct letters.
<b>PSHE</b>	We will learn that there are a wide range of factors involved in maintaining a balanced, healthy lifestyle, physically & mentally. The children will learn what good physical health means & how to recognise early signs of physical illness	Plan & prepare a healthy meal at home.

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