

Ancient Egypt

This term, your child will be studying the Ancient Egyptians. The main aspects and ideas which will be explored within this topic are:

Timelines:

We will be learning to place events along a timeline using the correct vocabulary.

Geography:

We will be studying where Egypt is and looking at the importance of the River Nile to explain why early ancient Egyptians first settled around the River.

History:

We will be studying factual evidence to describe the different roles/jobs in ancient Egyptian Society. We will be studying the process of mummification. We will be researching the different types of pyramids and how these changed over time. We will also be studying typical ancient Egyptian houses and researching what the ancient Egyptians ate.

Art and design:

We will be sketching a design for an Egyptian tomb, including animal outlines. We will also create Egyptian jewellery and hieroglyphic bookmarks.

How you can help:

The British Museum is a fantastic place to find out more about the Ancient Egyptians.

Some useful websites:

- ◇ <http://egypt.mrdonn.org/>
- ◇ <http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/egyptians/>
- ◇ <http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/Egypt.html>



How can I help at home?

Make it clear to your child that you value homework - set aside a specific time and area for your child to work on their homework.

Your child will receive homework weekly. Help them to be organised with their time so that all deadlines are met.

Encourage your child to read a variety of texts and genres, not just books brought home from school.

Listen to your child read and ask them questions about the text to help their understanding. Discuss what happened; would you make the same choices as the characters? Why/why not? Encourage your child to back up their opinion with evidence from the text.

Encourage your child to do everyday mathematics such as telling the time, using bus/train timetables or working out the total/change in a shop.

Help your child to be organised:

- ◇ Are there any letters for me in your book bag?
- ◇ Have you got your book bag?
- ◇ Are ALL your reading books inside it?
- ◇ Is your completed homework in there?
- ◇ Children need to come in to school dressed in their full PE kit every Monday for their 'Big PE' session.

St Mary's C of E Primary School

Year 4 Parent Information Booklet

What your child will be learning about this term and how you can help at home

Spring Term 2019

What we will be learning this term...

English

Children will be working with a variety of texts and genres. The children will be reading the novel 'I was a Rat' by Phillip Pullman as a whole class. This will form the basis for our narrative and writing work creating persuasive writing and newspaper reports from the story.

Children will also be retelling and writing Greek Myths, exploring powerful themes such as good and evil; temptation; fantasy; truth; identity and heroism from Ancient Greece.

During their poetry unit, they will be exploring how a poet's use of descriptive language can create images for the reader that are often filled with emotion and hidden meaning.

How you can help:

Support your child to read stories with a variety of settings and discuss how this affected the story.

Make available and encourage your child to read a variety of newspapers and magazines; this could include watching news programmes such as Newsround.

Make it clear that all writing should be correctly punctuated, make sense and be spelt accurately.

Visit your local library and look at children's versions of Greek myths.

Share different types of poems with your child and discuss the themes and language used. Ask them to look at the structure and patterns of rhyme (if it does rhyme) within the poem.



Maths

Number

Our work in mathematics will focus on raising standards in basic calculation skills, problem solving, reasoning, mental maths strategies and times table recall.

How you can help:

- Encourage your child to learn ALL times tables from 0-12 and the related division facts: e.g. $2 \times 3 = 6$ and $3 \times 2 = 6$, so I know that $6 \div 3 = 2$ and $6 \div 2 = 3$.
- Practise number bonds to multiples of (17+13 = 30, 38 + 42 = 80 etc.)
- Practise using known facts to derive facts involving 3-digit numbers (If I know $2 \times 3 = 6$. I can work out that $600 \div 3 = 200$)

Weekly homework will be linked to our maths topic.

It is important that your child can explain their methods and *why* they were successful, using mathematical language.

Ask your child to explain how they worked through a problem in order to do this.

At home, encourage your child to use clocks to tell the time and to work out time intervals between activities and daily routines.



Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education

During weekly lessons, children will be learning about how to interact respectfully with one another and how to react appropriately when disagreements arise.

They will learn about bullying and how to deal with it should it arise.

Children will learn about different feelings and emotions they may experience and how these affect others.

BIG PE

Children will continue their weekly 'Big PE' sessions.

This term they will be focusing on **basketball and tennis** activity.

Please ensure that your child comes to school in their full PE kit every **Monday**.

Music

Children will continue to take part in instrumental lessons this term and will be participating in a 'Wider Opportunities' Music Concert.

Please ensure that children bring their guitars to school every **Monday** ready for their lesson on Monday, and get the opportunity to practise at home!



RE

What is the Importance of the Symbols, Beliefs and Teachings in Hinduism?

The children will learn about the main symbols in Hinduism and their meanings. They will be taught the main beliefs and teachings in Hinduism.

Holy Communion

The children will learn about what Jesus said about communion. They will also explore how the act of sharing communion demonstrates God's peace.

Do Fame and Christianity go together?

The children will learn how Christian qualities support fame, you can be 'famous' and also be a Christian, without having to compromise your faith.

