

Year 6 Autumn Term Newsletter 2017

We hope that you have had an enjoyable break and that the children are ready for a busy and exciting new school year!

Our Topic during the Autumn term is 'Ancient Egypt'. The children will develop an understanding of what it means to be an historian, exploring the skills of being an effective archaeologist; they will appreciate how the physical landscape can affect human development, focusing on the River Nile, and finally, understand how Ancient Egyptians lived their day to day lives, including the important influence of their religious beliefs. Art and DT opportunities will include improving their mastery of sketching and watercolour techniques, as well as designing and making their own bread recipe. We will also be holding an Egyptian day where children and staff can dress in Egyptian clothes while exploring different aspects of the Topic. The date is yet to be confirmed but we will let you know as soon as possible, so be prepared!



Our first Science topic this term is 'Light'; children will learn how light enters the eye in order for objects to be seen, and conduct a series of practical investigations about light and shadows. In our second unit, 'Human Circulation', pupils will learn to identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system and how their bodies function. During computing this term, we will develop our understanding of the Excel programme by inputting data, creating graphs and using formulae.

In RE, the children will learn about the Hindu religion. They will have the opportunity to explore what Hindus believe and how they worship, including important traditions and celebrations. Following this we will compare Christian and Hindu festivals, focussing on Christmas and Diwali. For PSHE, the children will learn to identify and challenge stereotypes, which may otherwise lead to discrimination. There will also be a unit of work around keeping safe in the community, including e-safety.

During the Autumn Term, pupils will have a *Gymnastics* session each week on a Monday afternoon, and a *Games* session on a Tuesday afternoon. The latter will take place outdoors, so children need to have appropriate indoor **and outdoor** kit with them each week. As usual, this should be brought in on Monday and stay in school until Friday (when it can be taken home for a wash!). We do not have much spare kit, so it is vital that children bring their own each week. Please ensure all kit is named.



As the Key Stage 2 statutory tests (SATs) take place at the end of Key Stage 2, the Year 6s will be working hard to achieve their best in these very important assessments. During the week beginning 14th May, the children will be tested in Reading, Maths and Spelling, Grammar & Punctuation (known as SPaG). We will set homework each week for spelling and vocabulary, which may be in the form of spellings to learn for a test, or may be a vocabulary building exercise (researching the meaning of words, and then using them in sentences to show this understanding). It continues to be very important to read with your child - or at least ensure they read to themselves - at least three times per week. In addition, there will again be a termly project, details of which are over the page!

Thank you for your continued support; if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

The Year 6 Team