

# 'Ancient Egyptians'

Year 4

## Autumn Term 2016 Curriculum Information

### As Mathematicians...

We will be working on our place value skills; ordering and comparing numbers beyond 1000; rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000; using negative numbers; solving number, word and time problems; learning column addition and subtraction, the grid method for multiplication and the chunking method for division; and using measures.

### As Writers...

We will be learning how to write effective fantasy stories, using 'Talk for Writing' approaches. Later on, we will be writing our own sets of instructions, linking these to our theme work as much as possible. Finally, we will be creating images by writing observational poetry.

### As Readers...

We will be reading class books related to our theme work. We will also be using Book Talk sessions each week to explore a range of fiction, non-fiction and poetry texts, building up our skills of inference, comprehension, and predicting, identifying text structure and exploring the language writer's use.

### As Scientists...

We will develop our skills of questioning, setting up fair tests, using equipment, taking measurements, gathering data and drawing conclusions from results. We will be doing this by studying Solids, Liquids and Gases. We will also learn about the Water Cycle.

### As Historians...

We will be learning about life during Ancient Egyptian times, with a focus on artefacts, the Egyptians' beliefs in the afterlife, mummification, and the clothes they wore, the building of the pyramids and the gods that they believed in.

### As Geographers...

We will be finding Egypt on a map and exploring different types of maps of Egypt. We will also look at the natural and man-made features of the area and how the land was used.

### As Artists and Designers...

In Art and Design and Technology we will be making clay canopic jars, which were used in the mummification process, drawing and painting Egyptian art, along with planning and building a sarcophagus.

### In ICT...

We will be learning how to keep safe when on the internet and using different kinds of technology. As part of the curriculum, we will also be learning about programming and debugging and Stop Go Animation.

### As Citizens...

We will look at new beginnings, as it is the start of a new school year. We will consider how we can make our class a welcoming and safe environment. We will then move on to thinking about how we can get on well together and what to do if we 'fall out' with our friends.

### In RE...

In RE we will be thinking about values in our own lives, as well as learning about what values Christians and humanists hold. We will then compare their values to ours, considering what is similar and different, helping us to raise questions about what is important to us.

### As Athletes...

We will be developing our core skills by focusing on the fundamentals of activity; balance, coordination and agility during our indoor Real PE lessons. In our outdoor sessions, we will be playing invasion games.

## Welcome to Year 4!

The theme for our first term is Ancient Egyptians. Within this theme, the children will have the opportunity to develop their ideas and understanding across the curriculum.

Please bear in mind the key points below with regard to Year 4 here at Bridgewater.

### Equipment

We will provide the children with all of the necessary equipment that they need to complete the day-to-day school work, consequently we have made the decision that children aren't allowed to bring in pencil cases. As mentioned at the Information Evening, we would like the children to have a small school bag, which will fit in a drawer.

### Uniform and PE Kits

Please ensure your child has the correct, smart uniform for school and that all parts of it are clearly named. Children should have their PE kit in school at all times, which needs to be in a small bag, kept in the classrooms.

### Home Learning

Homework will be set on a Thursday and will be due in on a Tuesday. This gives the children the opportunity to ask any questions on a Friday before the weekend if they are unsure of the tasks they have been set. The expectations for Upper Phase are that the children read daily, regularly practise their times tables and spellings and that they complete a weekly task. This should be completed in their Home Learning Journals. During the second half term, the children will be given a project to complete which will replace the time spent on different weekly curriculum tasks.

Spellings - Each Monday, the children will have a Spelling lesson in which a new spelling pattern or skill will be introduced to them. They will then have short follow up activities set each afternoon to help reinforce what they have learnt. They will be a set a piece of spellings homework each Monday, following on from the taught session, but this will vary in nature. It could be a game, a list of words to learn or a follow up activity. On Friday, they will then be tested on words that follow the spelling pattern for that week. Alongside this though, the children will be regularly given some high frequency words to learn which they need to know how to spell by the end of Year 4. These will be tested at various times throughout the year.

Multiplication Tables - Children will be expected to spend time at home **regularly** learning their times tables each week. Under the new curriculum, they are expected to know up to 12x12 by the end of Year 4. They will be able to move up through the tables as they learn them, progressing on to the related division facts.

Additional Information – We will have a trip to Abington Park Museum in September, to be immersed in the life of an Ancient Egyptian! There will be a small charge for this trip and a letter will be go out soon, informing you about the relevant information. Also please bear in mind that the residential trip to Frontier Centre is booked for May 2017 and **a deposit of £50 will be due in October 2016**, more details to follow.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask your child's class teacher.

Regards,

**The Year 4 Team.**