



Head Teacher: Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

Aim High

Never Give Up

Follow Your Dream

Lead By Example

October 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

MAIN LEARNING THEME – *Tomb Raiders – Ancient Egypt*

Our theme for the second half term is *Tomb Raiders*, where we will be focussing on Ancient Egypt. The theme will be based around a specific topic linked to Ancient Egypt that the children chose in class, but they still aren't aware of which theme it is! To launch the theme we will be having a day where we will spend a day in the life of an Ancient Egyptian. We will be thinking about the things children did during this period of time and experiencing some of the typical schooling they would have experienced! At the end of the day we will do a big reveal of which Ancient Egyptian topic they chose to learn about.

We intend on doing very practical learning around this theme and it will be a joint decision between children and the adults in Year 3 as to where we take the topic each session.

Vocabulary linked to the topic: **Relic, Cartouche, Archaeologist, Slave, Sphinx, Monument, Pyramids, Ancient, and Pharaoh.**

ENGLISH

We have had a very successful start to our Literacy and Language program in Year 3, with great enthusiasm from the children and adults! As a year group we will be looking at *Stories with a familiar setting* thinking about friendships and contrasting moods. They will then think about how the description of a setting can reflect feelings of a character. This will link into the writing of two descriptions showing contrasting moods and feelings. We will then be progressing onto looking at *Information Texts* where we will be looking at writing information for an A-Z guide for day trips linked to our theme.

To help support this learning you could look at these texts:

Katie Morag books by Mairi Hedderwick
Buried Alive by Jacqueline Wilson
The Shrimp by Emily Smith
School According to Humphrey by Betty G. Birney
Judy Moody by Megan McDonald
A Villain's Night Out by Margaret Mahy

Vocabulary Linked to English: **Dark, Relieved, Mood, Setting, Inverted Commas, Adverbs, Drama, Fact and Opinion.**

Children who are part of Read Write Inc. will continue in their groups from this half term; however the adult that they were working with may change. Children are assessed regularly and change groups and adults as part of progressing through the programme. We will inform you when your child moves groups, or moves into our Language and Literacy programme.

MATHS

In Maths we will be moving on to *Multiplication and Division*. We will be looking at using written methods to answer questions about them. We will be continuing our work in class on times tables, which is one way in which you can support the children from home. We will also be looking at how we can use the inverse to solve multiplication and division questions mentally. We will also be moving on to looking at *Geometry* where we will be looking at drawing shapes and making 3D shapes linked to our theme and the seasonal time of year! Throughout the Maths learning there will be opportunities for the children to choose aspects of the Maths they would like to investigate in more detail, using the skills they have acquired during their learning time. This will be child initiated and I am assured by the children that they are looking forward to their next investigation! Please do check the website for any materials linked to our Maths learning.

Vocabulary linked to Maths: **Multiplication, Times, Division, Share, Inverse, Dimension, Orientation and Facts.**

PARENT/CARER INVOLVEMENT

We would be very grateful for any offers from you to come and have a chat about your experiences of Egypt, or even just to have a look at a few photographs if you have been there on a holiday.

As well as this we will be doing an assembly based on the explorer Howard Carter who discovered the tomb of the famous pharaoh, Tutankhamun. This will be on **Wednesday 9th December 2015 at 2:50pm**. This will once again be in the Year 3 classroom and we would love to see you there for that.

The term after Christmas we will be joining with Year 4 in our Utterly Butterly Ukulele Project on Thursday 4th February. Details will follow shortly.

HOME LEARNING

Home learning will continue to be given out on a Wednesday to Wednesday basis. Please make sure that home learning is returned by the Wednesday deadline.

There will also be a non-compulsory 'Power Project' sent home which is linked to our topic. This will need to be returned by **Monday 7th December**. The project is titled 'Be an Explorer: Try your hand at archaeology.' There are different activities you might want to try your hand at, including building a pyramid, finding facts about the Nile, making a travel brochure or even creating your own artefact. The sheet that will be sent home will explain this in more detail and will contain more ideas for you to think about.

PE

Indoor PE will continue to be taught on a Monday afternoon and we will still be doing Outdoor PE on a Wednesday. We will continue our focus on Dance in our indoor PE and learning different skills in our outdoor multi-skills sessions on a Thursday. We require every child to have a full kit brought in on a Monday every week, with it being taken home on a Friday. **NO jewellery is allowed** during PE sessions. Can I please take this opportunity to remind you that earrings must be removed or covered by plasters or tape. **Please provide your child with suitable plasters or tape to cover them as it is a health and safety issue.**

The PE kit required is as follows:

- Plain white T-Shirt
- Black or Grey Shorts
- Plimsolls or Trainers
- Tracksuit bottoms for Outdoor PE

Children can continue to bring a snack from home and it **must be a healthy snack**, such as fruit. Remember that Norwood is a nut free school.

Hot school meals are still available each day but they must be paid for in advance through the school's ParentPay system.

Mr K Burnham
Class Teacher

Mrs S Sansby
Teaching Assistant

Mrs D Reynolds
Head Teacher

