



Year 3 curriculum newsletter — Autumn 2024

Our themes this term are: 'Powerful Pyramids' and 'Under the canopy'



Books we will be learning about

Autumn 1 – Cinderella of the Nile – *Beverley Naidoo*

The story of Tutankamun – *Patricia Cleveland-Peck*

Autumn 2 – Rainforest Poetry – *Paul Hess*

Up in the canopy – *James Aldred*



English

In Year 4, children will develop their narrative writing skills to include a clear sequence of events, descriptive detail, and an established narrator and characters. Alongside character development and plot, children will learn to control and direct their narrative using transitional words and phrases. We will be using our stories to blend sounds and unfamiliar words.

Maths

Children will extend their understanding of the number system and place value to include larger numbers. They will develop the connections between multiplication and division with fractions. Pupils will also develop their ability to solve a wide range of problems, which demand efficient written and mental methods of calculation. Each term, children will study aspects of place value; addition and subtraction; multiplication and division; fractions; measurement; geometry (properties of shape) and statistics.

Science

Animals including humans – We will learn about the things that humans need to survive, how we get our nutrition from what we eat and how the skeletons of animals give them support and protection.

Plants – In this unit, we will build upon our previous learning in plants and learn to identify and describe the functions of the parts of a flowering plant. They will also explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants.

RE

We will start the year by learning about the big story of the Bible. We will look at how the Bible is made up of lots of smaller books and think about the key concepts in the Bible.

In Autumn 2, we will look at how the season of Advent and the feast of the Epiphany point towards the true meaning of Christmas.

Art and Design Technology

Our first topic is 'Ancient Egyptian Scrolls, where we look at ancient techniques to make paper. We will use this knowledge to make scrolls.

In Design Technology, we will be learning different embroidery stitches, and apply these to join two pieces of fabric together to make a Christmas cushion.

History – 'What did the Ancient Egyptians believe?'

In this unit, children find out about the way of life of people living in Ancient Egypt from archaeological discoveries. We will begin to understand the great successes of the ancient civilisation. Children will develop an understanding of mummification, pyramids, farming and the importance of The River Nile. Finally, children will find out about Egyptian life by exploring what the Egyptians wore, ate and their beliefs.

Geography – 'Why are rainforests important to us?'

In this topic, we will start by locating and describing the key features of the Amazon rainforest. We will also learn about the different layers of the rainforest and begin to understand that trees and plants adapt to living in the rainforest. We will then consider how the rainforest is changing, and the negative impact that humans have on it.

Computing

Spreadsheets – We will use the various features of a spreadsheet programme to plan and track a party budget.

They will learn how to use the graphing, timers and spin tools.

Coding – In this topic, we will learn how to use various features of code, including timers, repeat functions. We will apply these to coding our own interactive scene.

Music

Children will be learning about music inspired by animals and compose our own music based on an animal.

Personal, Social, Health, Economic

Children will be learning about what makes a healthy lifestyle. They will learn about the importance of nutrients as well as about different drugs, including alcohol. After half-term, children will develop an awareness of the role of victims, bullies and bystanders, as well as make decisions on what they trust online using agreed criteria.

Your child's PE days are:

Tuesdays and Thursdays

Important information:

Homework

Homework will be set on a Friday and due in by Tuesday. Spellings will be on Google Classroom. **Sometimes there may be extra things on Google Classroom as well (activities/ learning, performance songs with the music, notices)**

Snacks and lunchtime

Please provide healthy snacks for play time; no crisps, chocolate, sesame or nuts

Uniform

Please see the [website](#) for correct uniform

Parent Hub

Please make sure you are signed up for [ParentHub](#) – this is our preferred communication method.

If there is a concern

Please arrange an appointment to see the class teacher by contacting the school office.