



Curriculum Information

Sycamore, Rowan and Larch September - October 2022

Produced by:

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www.swansfieldpark.northumberland.sch.uk



Welcome to the first Upper Key Stage 2 newsletter of the year. It has been wonderful to have the children back in school and we are pleased to report that they are settling well into their new classes and routines.

Our topic this half term is: **Temples, Tombs and Treasures**

This involves:

History - Early Civilisation / Ancient Egyptians

Children will learn about the achievements of the earliest civilizations with an overview of where and when the first civilizations appeared through an in-depth study of Ancient Egypt. They will begin by locating Ancient Egypt in time and chronologically ordering some of the major events of the Egyptian civilization. They will explain the step by the step ritual of mummification and the Egyptian's beliefs on the afterlife. They will describe the discovery made by the archaeologist Howard Carter in Egypt in 1922 and explain its historical importance as well as explaining who the pharaoh Tutankhamun was. They will look at the contents of Tutankhamun's tomb and identify and describe some of the many artefacts found by Carter, making judgements about them and justifying their opinion as to their purpose and what they indicate about life in Ancient Egypt. Children will then use their reasoning skills to make a judgement as to how Tutankhamun died through critiquing the available evidence. They will then compare and contrast the powers of different Ancient Egyptian gods. Finally, children will read, write and interpret Egyptian Hieroglyphics and reason about what evidence can tell us about the past.

Geography - Egypt and The River Nile

Through a historical study of Ancient Egypt, children will locate Egypt on a world map and look at which continent it is found in and which other modern-day countries and seas surround it. They will then discuss what kind of country Egypt is in terms of natural and physical geography. Principally, to provide context to the historical study of Ancient Egypt, children will investigate the geographical features of the River Nile, such as its length, tributaries, source and mouth, as well as looking at which countries besides Egypt the Nile runs through. Children will also consider why the Nile was vital for the survival of the Ancient Egyptians and why it continues to be important to this day.

Art & Design - Papyrus Painting

Children will learn how Papyrus revolutionised the way the Egyptians recorded information about their lives. They will make their own replica of a piece of papyrus artwork, studying the art from ancient Egypt for ideas and inspiration.

Science - Forces

Children will consider what weight is and how the impact caused by falling objects can vary depending on their size, shape, mass, and the height they fall from. Through a range of practical investigations, they will then learn what friction is, the varying ways in which it can be measured as well as identifying instances of high and low friction. Children will learn about ways in which both air resistance and water resistance affects moving objects before progressing to explore how simple machines can make it easier to move objects. They will then make and test models which have pulleys or levers as well as look at how gears work together in transmissions. Finally, they will make models to explore in greater depth how gears work.

Computing - Network

Children will explore what a computer network is to understand the advantages and disadvantages. Moving on, the children will explore the three different types of networks (LAN, MAN and WAN) and understand what topology is and how topology networks work. To understand how computers connect, children will explore how information is received using packets and routing. Children will understand the difference between the Internet and World Wide Web including what cloud computing is. They will also explore communication methods on the Internet such as broadband and online streaming. Finally, the children will understand what malware is and how this can affect a computer network, identifying and discussing ways of minimising risks of cybersecurity threats.

Other Subjects:

French: All About Ourselves

PHRSE: Jigsaw - Being Me In My World

PE: NUF Net & Wall Games and Swimming

RE: Hinduism - Belief and Worship

Music: Charanga - Happy

We will also be celebrating Roald Dahl Day, European Day of Languages, National Poetry Day and World Space Week during this half term.

English:

- Biography (The Story of Tutankhamun)
- Reports, Persuasion and Letter Writing (Secrets of the Sun King)

Mathematics:

Year 5: Place Value, Addition & Subtraction

Year 6: Place Value, Four Operations

For specific learning objectives and coverage in English and Mathematics, please look at the Autumn Term planning document on the school website within your child's class page

Homework & Spellings:

Weekly Tasks: Every Monday, your child will be set online homework tasks within their Google Classroom account. These will be outlined within the main page of Google Classroom and used to either prepare children for a new topic or consolidate new knowledge, skills and understanding. All children will have six days in which to complete and submit their homework. If your child has any difficulties accessing their homework, please contact their class teacher and alternative arrangements can be discussed.

Spellings: Spellings will be set each Monday on www.spellingframe.co.uk and made live for six days. It is important that your child routinely practises their spellings as well as completes two online tests each week.

Punctuation and Grammar: As part of your child's weekly homework, they may sometimes be set a quiz on www.SPAG.com As with all homework tasks, the online quiz will be set on a Monday and made live for six days.

Mental Maths: Times Tables Rockstars and Sumdog should continue to be used by your child on a weekly basis to develop and secure their times tables skills. Mental maths skills will be tested on a weekly basis.

Reading: Your child will access their weekly reading homework online through Reading Plus www.readingplus.com They will need to read online for a minimum of 30 minutes each week, selecting texts that they are interested in and answering a range of comprehension questions in order to demonstrate their understanding.

Our UKS2 children will also continue to visit the school library. They will have some time each week to explore the books in our newly stocked library as well as spend some time reading books of interest. The children will then be able to take their books home to read and enjoy with friends and family as well.

PE Kits: As communicated earlier in the week, our UKS2 children will be participating in a range of PE sessions this term. They will need to come to school dressed in their school PE kit on their allocated days and have their swim wear when participating in curriculum swim lessons at Willowburn. Please note that earrings should not be worn.

Additional items in school: Each child has been provided with a stationery pack this year so please ensure that pencil cases and equipment remain at home. Each child will however need to bring a clean, named water bottle to school each day. As detailed in the UKS2 disclaimer form prior to the summer, mobile phones should only come in to school under exceptional circumstances. Class teachers no longer collect phones in and store them, instead children will have to leave them in their coat pockets. School will take no responsibility for loss or damage to mobile phones in school.

Although mobile phones are not used within school, please could we ask that children's use of social media is carefully monitored by all parents. If you would like further guidance regarding age restrictions or parental controls, we are more than happy to provide you with this information, please get in touch with your child's class teacher.

Wellies and outdoor shoes: Please ensure that your child has a pair of named wellies or outdoor shoes available in school at all times for playtime as well as outdoor learning activities.

And finally, from the Upper Key Stage 2 team...

Thank you for your support and positive comments over the last couple of days, they really are appreciated. If you have any further queries or questions, please just get in touch, we are always here to help.

Mrs Murdy Miss Back Mrs Chambers