



## Year 4 Newsletter—Autumn 1 Term

### Try these websites for games and activities at home:

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/> (Math and English)  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/egyptians/>  
<http://www.frogeducation.com/home-page>

### Homework

In year 4 homework will be given to the children every **Thursday** and should be returned on **Wednesday**.

### English and Maths

**Reading** – please ensure that your child reads for 20 minutes every day. Talk to them about what they have read and ask some questions. For example re-tell the story, how did the author create suspense? What emotive language was used?

**English & Maths activity**—each week your child will receive an activity to complete please ensure your child spends at least 15 minutes a day on either.

**Spellings, Times tables & Mental Maths** - The children will be tested weekly. Please ensure your child learns these at home. **Spelling tests will be every Thursday and Times tables every Wednesday.**

### Research learning project

#### Key Learning

To gather notes through research, identifying key information about Ancient Egypt  
 To be specific with key information (Objects and design of the tomb)  
 To use labels to help identify and explain the purpose of objects  
 To revise key features of a recount

#### A 3D Model of an Egyptian Pyramid

**This task involves becoming an expert in Ancient Egyptian life. You must create a 3D model of an Ancient Egyptian pyramid, which should include objects you might find inside a tomb of a pharaoh. Based on your research, you can design and decorate the exterior walls. Inside the tomb, you will need to design a secret door where the pharaoh has hidden the last pages of his diary. This recount should be written in the 1<sup>st</sup> person and it should describe a significant day in the pharaoh's life.**

#### Success Criteria

Carry out research on Ancient Egyptian pyramids and pharaohs' lives  
 Plan and design the inside of the pyramid (making sure you leave space for a secret door/room)  
 Choose suitable materials and create the objects (Don't forget to label them)  
 Find an interesting way to write and hide the recount  
 Design and create the outer walls of the pyramid

#### Ways to help

Help your child to collect information and carry out research online or at the library  
 Question them on what objects they might find in a tomb. For example, what is their purpose? How big are they?  
 Help them to select suitable materials to make the objects, thinking about the size of the objects.

**Assistant Headteacher - Mr. Manalo**

**Teachers - Mrs. Hantar (4H) & Ms. Choudhury (4C)**

**Support Staff - Mary, Sean, Jack**

Dear Parents,

Hello and welcome to Year 4! We really look forward to meeting you in the coming year and hope that you and your children enjoy year 4. Please speak to any of the team before school from **8.55am** should you have any questions or require any help or support.

### Notes and reminders

#### Contact Details

Please inform the school office as soon as possible if your contact details - including home address, home telephone number, mobile numbers, and emergency contact details for your child(ren) has changed over the summer holiday. You may also need to review the collection details held on file for your child

#### Free School Meals

If you or your husband/partner is in receipt of income support, job seekers allowance, pension credits or have an income below £15,190 per year. You may be eligible to apply for Free School Meals. You can claim for Free School Meals by completing a claim form available online

#### PE

Year 4 PE is on **Monday** and Fitness is on **Thursday**. Please remember to bring your PE kit in at the beginning of the week and take it home at the end of the week.

#### Super Swimmers

4C will be swimming every Friday (then every Monday starting 25th September). Jewellery is not allowed to be worn in the pool so therefore, please ensure the children don't wear any on Fridays. i.e. earrings. Boys must wear tight-fitting trunks and girls must wear swimming costumes and may wear leggings underneath. They must also bring a towel and swimming cap (which may be purchased from any sports shop or online), in a small, strong bag.

#### Trips

**On Monday 25th September**, year 4 will be visiting the British Museum. While there, they will attend a workshop about Mummification and look at the Ancient Egyptian exhibition. We will need **parental helpers** so please let the class teachers know if you are available. To help you budget for this year's trips, here are the potential trips that the children may go to long with the likely costs.

Despite decreasing budgets the school will still spend almost £4000 subsidising class trips this year. To help you budget for this year's trips, the approximate total for all trips this year will be around £20 or £100 including residential trip.



# This is what we will be learning:

## English:

**Recount-** Having looked at recounts in the form of writing diaries and newspaper articles in Year 3, the children will move on to develop their ability to write a recount, in the first person, of a recent event that they have experienced. They will further consolidate their use of paragraphs and time connectives to structure their work and will explore how adjectives and powerful verbs can be used to help the reader visualise the events. They will also practice different reading strategies for unknown words. Some children will also consider how they can include clues to show the reader how the events made them feel. **Useful**

**Books: Discovering Tutankhamun's Tomb, Tutankhamun The Search For Tutankhamun.**

**Historical texts**— Reading the story, **Seneb's Secret**, the children will be identifying historical words and looking at why it is important to describe a historical setting. Year 4 will plan and write a story set in Ancient Egypt, involving a mystery character. The children will be using drama techniques such as freeze frames and hot seating to help retell key moments in the story. They will then look closely at dialogue and actions of a character along with historical vocabulary which they will then apply to their own historical story. **Useful Texts: Setna's Journey, Scareb's Secret, The Plot on the Pyramid, The Magic and the Mummy.**

## Maths:

This half term, year 4 will be focusing on place value and calculations. They will be finding more or less than a 1000 of a given number, developing their written calculations by adding and subtracting up to 4 digit numbers. They will also be learning to multiply and divide up to 3 digit numbers using an efficient strategy. They will move on to look at fractions and begin to identify decimal equivalents. They will end the half term with geometry, identifying angles, looking at symmetry and different geometric shapes.

## Topic: Desert habitats and Ancient Egyptians

In Year 4, the children will be learning about Ancient Egypt; looking at artefacts, mummification, hieroglyphics and the importance of the River Nile. The children will be learning about Howard Carter— an archaeologist and the discovery of Tutankhamun. On the **25th September**, year 4 will attend the **British Museum workshop on Mummification**— they will use this to support their writing of a recount. They will then move on to learn all about desert landscapes and using their atlas skills to identify desert areas. Children will have the opportunity to research life of the nomadic Tuaregs in the desert.

## Computing— Modelling

In computing, the children will understand that ICT allows for situations to be modelled. They will begin to use software to model 3D objects, which will link to their Egyptian topic. Year 4 will continue to explore simulations and link this with their topic.

## PSHE: Be a good learner

All the children will be setting goals, becoming resilient, motivated learners. They will also focus on working together and solving problems.

## RE: Sikhism

This unit introduces pupils to the Sikh religion in a clear and straightforward way, taking account of the history, current practice and beliefs of the Sikhs in Britain today, including in the locality of Tower Hamlets. It provides for pupils to learn from some Sikh stories, ideas and concepts and to develop their own appreciation of Sikh religion.

## P.E : Rounders

Year 4 will be learning to throw with accuracy and using an underarm and overarm throw. They will practice deep field catching and use a range of bats to hit a ball. They will apply the skills they have learnt, participating in a small-sided game.

## Spellings:

Your child will receive spelling homework weekly. Please help them to look at and read the word, say the word and then cover and try to write the word from memory. This should take 5 minutes each day and the repetition will help your child to memorise and learn the key words. This in turn will help with their reading and writing. Each week they will have a particular sound to practice and their spellings will relate to this sound. **Grammar/handwriting/spelling**— Every Monday the children will have a lesson focusing on Grammar, handwriting and their spellings they need to learn.