

Try these websites for games and activities at home:
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/egyptians/> (Egyptians)
[http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/\(Math and English\)](http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/(Math%20and%20English))
<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/Flash.aspx?f=SpeedChallenge> (mental maths)

<http://www.primarygames.com/>

Homework

In year 4 homework will be given to the children every **Thursday** and should be returned on **Wednesday**. They will have a **blue and red folder** to place their homework in and bring back every week.

Reading – please ensure that your child reads for 30 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 20 minutes a day on either.

Spellings, Times tables & Mental Maths - The children will be tested weekly. Please ensure your child learns these at home.

Research Learning Project

Alongside the weekly homework, children have a research learning project to do every half term. Projects involve the children spending time researching using the internet and books about a topic we are looking at in class.

This half-term's topic is "**Egyptians and the Dessert**"

The children will create a 3D model of an Ancient Egyptian pyramid, which should include objects you might find inside a tomb of a pharaoh. Inside the tomb, they will need to design a secret door where the pharaoh has hidden the last pages of his diary. The children will then write a diary entry as the Pharaoh.

Knowledge To deepen their learning by researching an area linked to their current topic and displaying their information in a first person recount. Recount writing links to their prior learning in year 3.

Skills To consolidate their recount writing skills.

The class teacher will send out more information about the research project!



Year 4 Newsletter - Autumn 1

Assistant Head Teacher Yr3/4—Miss Binnie
Teachers - Ms McClelland (4M) and Ms Matin (4T)
Set Teachers - Ms Kurup
Support Staff - Lisa, Michelle, Shipa and Tay

Dear Parents/carers,

Notes and Reminders

Contact Details

Please inform the school office as soon as possible if your contact details (address, phone numbers) have changed over the summer holiday. Also now, **by law**, we are required to have **2 emergency contact** details for your child(ren).

PE, Fitness and Running

Year 4 will have PE every **Tuesday** afternoon and a Fitness session every **Thursday**. Until February half term 4T will be swimming every **Monday** and 4M will have PE on **Monday** afternoon. This year they will also be taking part in 2 running sessions a week—**Wednesday and Friday**. They are only required to wear trainers for the running sessions. Please make sure that your child brings their **PE kits for fitness and PE sessions**.

Trips

To help you budget for this year's trips, the approximate total for all trips this year will be approximately **£16**.

Presentation

This year, Old Palace have invested in some brand new exercise books for the children with the continued focus on raising the standards of presentation. In order to encourage pupils to try hard with their handwriting and presentation in all subjects, a pen licence will be awarded to pupils who meet the criteria. This is a very special achievement! The pupils will receive a pen licence in the form of a certificate and a brand new handwriting pen. They must continue to maintain the high standard of presentation as their pen licence can be taken away at any time. Pupils will receive 2 free handwriting pens each school year and then after that we ask for a small fee of 40p to purchase a new one. We would appreciate your support with this at home. Below are the letter joins and capital letters used at Old Palace:

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

On Wednesday 12th September year 6 will be visiting the Imperial War Museum. While there, they will attend a workshop where they will meet an evacuee from World War 2.

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz



Topics this term:

English:

Recount– The children will 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. **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 developing their mental and written strategies for addition and subtraction calculations. There will be a focus on arithmetic every day and they will have opportunities to apply their reasoning skills. To help in the home, go through the value of each digit and ask what each digit represents.

Please continue to practice the 3,5,6,7,8 and 9 times tables at home.

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 **Thursday 20th 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

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.

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: What do different people believe about God?

This half term pupils will learn in depth from different religious and spiritual ways of life regarding diverse beliefs about God.

PE: Basketball

In this unit children will practice their throwing and catching skills. They will also consolidate their skills to work as a team.

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.

School library books

Your child will have the opportunity to use the class and school library. Please encourage your child to take care of the books and to return them in their school bags. Unfortunately any books that are damaged or lost will need to be replaced by parents/carers.