



Year 2 Curriculum Newsletter

April 2016

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We hope that you've had a relaxing Spring break. This term is set to be another great one, full of exciting learning opportunities. We have lots to look forward to with a Year 2 production, school trips and of course getting ready to move to Year 3. It has been lovely to watch the children grow and learn so far, and we look forward to seeing this continue in our last term.

CURRICULUM INFORMATION

THEME

'The Ancient Egyptians'

We are going back in time to visit the age of The Ancient Egyptians. Through this topic the children will continue to build on their broad knowledge of History, Science and Geography. In Science, we will be looking at the water cycle and investigating evaporation. We will also be finding out about a range of materials and testing their strength and suitability when building our own pyramids. In History, we will be comparing where The Ancient Egyptians appear on a timeline in comparison to The Ancient Sumerians and Shang Dynasty. We will be looking at facts from a range of sources and will investigate artifacts that have been left behind. This topic will culminate in a rather exciting Egyptian Day where the children will be able to dress up and sample what life was like back in The Ancient Egyptian times.

PSHCE

In PSHCE we are learning all about how to stay healthy. We will be looking at what foods are healthy, what exercises we can do to stay healthy and we will also about how to maintain good hygiene.

ENGLISH

This term we will be working on our factual writing skills. The children will continue to develop their knowledge of writing non-chronological reports. We will be researching lots of facts about The Ancient Egyptians and working hard to lay them out in a report with headings, sub-headings, paragraphs and diagrams.

MATHS

In Maths, we will be consolidating all of the number strategies that we have learnt so far, and this term we will concentrate more on using and applying these in a range of different contexts. We will be making links where possible to our Egyptian topic, and we are already excited about the weighing challenges that we have lined up. Our expectation by the end of the year is that all the children should know how to count in 2s, 5s and 10s, know the corresponding division facts and recall their doubles to 20. Remember, keep



practicing the Big Maths with your child and please reinforce telling the time on an analogue clock whenever you get the opportunity.

MANDARIN

Beginner pupils will be learning new topics such as; animals, food, stationary, and furniture. They will be able to speak about their personal preferences with regard to food and drink. Pupils are expected to understand the sound system of Mandarin Chinese (pinyin and tones). They will also learn to read and write simple Chinese characters.

Lower Intermediate pupils are expected to expand their vocabulary on the topics “Animals” “Fruits and Vegetables” “Food and drinks” “Stationary” “House and Rooms” They will continue to learn Pinyin as well as Chinese character structures and strokes. They will also be encouraged to participate into different Mandarin learning games and feel more confident to present based on a topic in front of the whole class.

Upper Intermediate pupils will learn Chapters on Primary Chinese(小学华文) 2A L5 onwards. These chapters will focus on playground items, stationary, school life and parts of a plant. And there will be some classic stories including ‘The Cat Goes Fishing’ and ‘How Does Kongrong Share the Pear.’

Advanced pupils will study chapters from Zhong Wen Book 2, which include Lesson 12 onwards. These chapters will be mainly focused on Chinese words and expressions on the topics of holidays and good habits. Through the role-play activities they will extend their expressions in daily life by talking in Chinese. They will also learn to write about holidays and good habits. We will also start our revision for the last two units for the final assessment.

MUSIC

This term, Year 2 will focus on learning songs from ‘The Wizard of Oz’ and develop their vocal range and expression ready for their musical theatre performance. Students will also listen to a variety of music and begin to identify instruments of the orchestra. We will also be continuing with keyboard skills and music theory through this as a medium, focusing on developing recognition of notes and rhythms on the treble staff.

DRAMA

In Drama lessons, pupils will work towards a scripted musical production based on *The Wizard of Oz*, which they will present towards the end of term.

ART

Year 2 pupils will conclude the year by exploring the Egyptians as they create a cut paper collage of Tutankhamen’s Death mask. Pupils will develop their observational drawing skills as they prepare their image and then their media handling skills as they use coloured paper, scissors and glue to create their final collage.



PE

Pupils will develop fundamental movement skills whilst taking part in net games (tennis & badminton). Pupils will take part in increasingly challenging situations and will improve their hand to eye co-ordination.

Pupils will also investigate movement, stillness, and how to find and use space in gymnastics. Pupils will develop their gross motor skills, become increasingly competent and confident and access a broad range of opportunities to extend their agility, balance and coordination.

In dance pupils will explore basic body actions such as jumping and turning, as well as using different parts of their body to create a simple sequence of movements. They will create and repeat short dances inspired by themes such as robots.

Pupils will develop basic athletics skills such as running, jumping and throwing. Basic striking and fielding skills will also be introduced.

Pupils will refine technique in athletics events including sprinting, middle distance, shot put as well as high jump and long jump. Striking and fielding skills as well as tactics for cricket/T-ball will also be refined.

Children will continue with our NAIS swimming programme this term. Swimming is a compulsory part of our curriculum and like other subjects all children are expected to attend every week. Please support us in ensuring that all pupils develop this vital life skill.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any queries or questions. We look forward to an enjoyable and hard working term.

Yours sincerely,

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