

Awesome Egyptians and



Fantastic Pharaohs

A word from us... Wow we are half way through the year already! Time flies when you are having fun! I hope that you had a lovely February half term and that the children are feeling refreshed and ready for an extremely busy half term! We are all very excited about our residential trip to Kingswood. All medical forms should be returned to school from **Wednesday 26th February**. Our topic 'Awesome Egyptians and Fantastic Pharaohs' is in full swing and the children are really enjoying their learning. They are becoming brilliant historians! This term **Games with Coach Chris will now be on a Monday** afternoon and **PE will be on a Thursday** afternoon. **Please ensure that children have their kits in school for these days.** For Games this is a **white Birches t-shirt, grey joggers, a Birches hoodie and trainers.** For PE the kit is a **white Birches t-shirt, red shorts and pumps.** Also a reminder to **please ensure that your child's ukulele is in school every Wednesday** so that they are able to take part in the lesson. We intend to hold a concert in the Summer term so practising at home as well as at school is important! Children should bring in a fruit snack for morning playtime as well as a filled water bottle everyday please. Our homework grid for this term is still available to view. We had some fantastic work brought in for our first showcase. Our final showcase for Spring will be on **Wednesday 1st April**. Spellings (Monday) and times tables (Thursday) will continue to be tested weekly. Please practise with your child regularly as well as reading each night. Once your child has completed their book, please sign and it can then be changed in school the next day. We encourage children to complete a short book review before changing their book. If you have any questions about your child's learning please do come and speak to us at the end of the day or send an email via the school office office@birches.staffs.sch.uk and we will get back to you as soon as possible. Here's to a great half term!

Best wishes, Mrs Cain.

Y4 dates to note this half term - Fairtrade Fortnight, World Book Day, Book Fair, Kingswood residential, Mother's Day lunch, Sports Relief, Class assembly, PFA Easter Egg Hunt, Easter assembly and special awards

English

In English this term we will be aiming to persuade! We will use our knowledge of Egypt from our topic work to try to persuade our audience to visit. We will also be developing our poetry skills with a focus poem by Edward Lear. As always we will be reading a range of quality texts to develop our comprehension skills as well as our inference, summarising and predictive skills.

Arts / Design Technology

As part of our topic, the children will be designing and making Egyptian mummies and Sphinx sculptures. As part of the design process they will find out about and evaluate existing products before exploring possible techniques and materials. They will select their chosen methods and resources as they design their own product before creating and evaluating their final piece. They will also create Egyptian style paintings.

Music - Ukuleles needed every Wednesday.

Computing - Spreadsheets, writing for different audiences.

MFL (French) - Months of the year, weather.

Humanities



Our focus will continue to be on Egyptians! The children will be using their geographical skills to locate countries, oceans and continents and significant landmarks and natural features on a range of maps.

The topic lends it self to a range of history skills as the children explore a range of sources of information and find out about life during this ancient time.

Maths We will be using concrete materials, pictorial methods and more abstract methods to develop our work on fractions and decimals. We will demonstrate our confidence in multiplication and division through exploring more written methods and by reasoning and solving problems. Please keep practising skills on TTrockstars! These are important skills that help with other work such as fractions and decimals. It also doesn't hurt to practise with the multiplication check fast approaching too!

Science / STEM

The children will be learning about living things and their habitats. The children will be grouping living things in a variety of ways as well as using classification keys to help group, identify and name living thing in their local environment. We will be exploring changes in environment and how this can pose dangers to living things.

Religious Education - Religious study - focus religion.

PE / Games - PE kit needed on Thursdays and Games kit needed on Mondays. Gymnastics focus.

PSHE / British Values - Happy and healthy me/Mutual tolerance and respect.