

Dear Parents and Carers,

We'd like to welcome you to the new half term. This letter is just to give you an idea into what we will be doing, so as to give you an insight to your child's time in school as we move into the Summer Term.



We will be beginning our new project, Ancient Civilisations. In the Ancient Civilisations project, your child will learn about two of the earliest civilisations in the world; ancient Sumer and ancient Egypt. They will study the ancient Sumerian and ancient Egyptian civilisation in detail, to discover how crucial factors like water sources and farming helped them to develop and thrive. They will find out about important inventions and the growth of cities. They will also study the lives of different people in society, including the roles of kings and pharaohs. The children will reflect on their learning by identifying the similarities and differences between the two civilisations. The children will then compare these civilisations, before learning about the causes and consequences of each civilisation's decline. They will also consider whether or not these civilisations left a lasting legacy.

In English we will be reading *Secrets of a Sun King* by Emma Carroll. This is a fantastic story with great links to our topic and is a thoroughly enjoyable read. We will begin by writing newspaper reports about the events that happen in the book. We will then move onto description, increasing our vocabulary and writing a five part story of our own. In reading, we will be looking continuing to read by *King of the Cloud Forests* Michael Morpurgo. Our recent reading assessment has shown the children have made great strides using our new reading focus' and we are proud of their effort.

In Maths we will continue with Decimals using our times tables knowledge and applying it to Maths problems with more reasoning and problem solving type questions to suit the children's deeper knowledge at this time of year. We will then move onto Time and Money. It is particularly important that children start the time unit with a basic ability to read the time from an analogue clock including five minute intervals. We will also continue to prepare intensely for the Multiplication Check happening in June. We are also seeing that children are really putting in the work learning their times tables and we will now complete a daily challenge to help them prepare further.

In RSHE, we will be learning about how we can manage risk in different places. This is a very important project which hopefully will engage the children and make them more aware of their environment.

In Science, we will be studying Electrical Circuits and Conductors. In the Electrical Circuits and Conductors project, your child will learn about the importance of electricity to our daily lives and the two sources, mains electricity and cells or batteries. They will discuss the dangers of mains electricity and safety measures. They will learn about a range of electrical components, such as cells, batteries, wires, lamps, buzzers and motors, and use them to construct series circuits, exploring the effect of adding and removing different components. Your child will learn to recognise the difference between a complete and incomplete circuit and examine ways of fixing incomplete circuits. They will also learn about conductivity and investigate various materials to discover which are conductive or non-conductive. Your child will learn about electrical conductors and insulators. Your child will use the knowledge gained throughout the project to design, make and evaluate a game.

This half term, PE will be on a Monday. In PE the first unit 'duel, win, lose' builds on the experiences children had during Key Stage One. We will revisit competition and supporting children when coping with success and failure is an important stage in learning as we progress through Primary school and towards competitive games. We will then move onto the 'pass, position, patience' unit which looks to develop children's understanding of attacking strategies to be implemented during modified games. The children will have the opportunity to develop their knowledge of effective spaces to be in, how to pass and keep the ball away from defending teams and how we sometimes need to take our time to build up play before scoring.

We will continue to use our music platform, Charanga, which the children seem to be thoroughly enjoying. This half term we will begin to learn the song Lean On Me and other gospel-based songs: Lean On Me by Bill Withers, He Still Loves Me by Walter Williams and Beyoncé, Shackles by Mary Mary, Amazing Grace by Elvis Presley, Ode To Joy Symphony No 9 by Beethoven and Lean On Me by The ACM Gospel Choir

In Design and Technology, we will complete a project called Tomb Builders. This project teaches children about simple machines, including wheels, axles, inclined planes, pulleys and levers, exploring how they helped ancient builders to lift and move heavy loads.

Thank you for all your help and support so far. Please contact us through the Year 4 email should you have any queries or concerns or speak to us on playground at the end of the day when all other children have left.

Mrs Appleton and Mr Randviir 😊