

Curriculum Overview for Year 3 and 4 Pupils – Term 1



Theme title: What evidence did the first civilisations leave behind?	Provisional launch pad event: Trip to Samphire Hoe (week 3)
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English <i>Please ensure guided reading books are brought to school daily.</i>	During English the pupils in Year 4 will be learning how to write an adventure story with a focus on the plot. They will also be writing completing some persuasive writing in the form of an advert. Year 3 will be writing adventure stories as well as learning how to write instructions. Additionally, they will be learning and performing poetry. Spelling will be a continuous focus within both year groups, learning words from the Statutory word list.	
Maths <i>Maths homework is set every Thursday and should be returned to school every Tuesday.</i>	Pupils in year 4 will be concentrating on improving their addition and subtraction skills, linking this to solving problems with money. They will also use their addition and subtraction skills when investigating capacity as well as estimating and comparing different volumes. Pupils in year 3 will be recapping and developing their place value skills. In addition they will continue to work on solving problems with addition and subtraction. Times tables continue to be a focus for both year groups.	
Science	In science this term the children will be learning about light and dark. They will be learning about how our eyes use light to see and will be investigating different reflective materials. During this term the children will also investigate shadows, they will see how they are created and how they change over depending on different variables.	Measuring how far light can be reflected from different materials, measuring the length of shadows at different times.
Geography	During Geography pupils will be locating Egypt on a world map, as well as this they will identify the physical and human features of Egypt, with a specific focus on the River Nile and its significance to the Egyptians. They will also be learning about the importance of the River Nile and its uses. Finally, pupils will be learning about tourism in Egypt and the effect of this on Egypt's famous landmarks.	Year 3/4 will make links to science by learning about how the climate of Egypt is different to the climate of the UK.
History	During History, pupils will plot important events on a timeline, additionally; they will use secondary sources to research life in Ancient Egypt. They will learn about a range of Egypt's greatest discoveries, including the discovery of Tutankhamun, the pyramids, canopic jars, hieroglyphics and many more! Pupils will finish with a debate as to which discovery was the greatest.	Year 3 will be writing an adventure story set in Ancient Egypt. Year 4 will be writing a letter about the discovery of Tutankhamun.
Art	During Art pupils will be recognising features of artwork from different time periods and cultures. Pupils will also design, create and evaluate their own canopic jars. They will be using clay to create their jars and once dry they will be painted using paint. These were jars that the Egyptians used to store their organs in during the mummification process.	
DT	During DT pupils will be looking at a typical shaduf that was used during ancient Egyptian times. They will research how and why it was used. They will move onto designing their own Egyptian shaduf, followed by construction. Finally, pupils will evaluate their finished pieces.	
Computing	Pupils will learn about the importance of modern day communication skills. They will be focussing on the use of technology to communicate. Pupils will learn how to effectively use search engines. Finally, they will be exploring the uses of email and will continue to identify how to stay safe while online.	
PE	In outdoor PE this term, pupils will be doing OAA. In indoor PE pupils will be doing some gymnastics and looking at balances. Children will work in pairs and use apparatus to create different bridges.	
Music	In music this term, children will continue to learn how to play the Ukelele. Children will work move towards learning a simple song together.	
RE	This term, children will be investigating, 'Why do people pray?' Children will learn in depth about different religious and spiritual ways of prayer, the practice and key symbols and words used. They will also consider the significance of prayer, developing thoughtful ideas and viewpoints of their own about prayer.	
P.S.H.E	This term the children will be focusing on 'Emotional regulation'. They will be looking at the different emotions they may feel and strategies to deal with them when they are finding things difficult. They will also be looking at these strategies and considering how they can be used to support friendships in school.	

Ways in which you could support next terms curriculum at home:

Books you could read	Places you could visit together	Other activities
*Non-fiction books about the Egyptians *Horrible History books about the Egyptians	*Maidstone Museum *The British Museum	*Watch films based around the Egyptians eg. Prince of Egypt