

## PE

### Gymnastics

In our lessons with Mr Butler we will be developing our ability to balance and move with control. We will be learning to hold bridge positions, and will be working in pairs to create symmetric sequences.

## Computing

Our focus in our next unit of work will be on developing our research skills. We will use precise questions and search strings to help us find the information we want, and learn to quickly scan and sort pages to find those that are most useful to us.



## English

We will start the term by completing our study of the stories *Songbird* by Sharon King-Chai and *Zeraffa Giraffa* by Dianne Hofmeyr. We will be investigating the way that settings and characters are described, and will contrast the endings of the two stories. We will finish this unit of work by writing alternative endings for *Zeraffa Giraffa*.

After that, we will shift to focus on newspaper reports. We will think about the way that they answer the 'Five Ws' (who, what, when, where, why) and use direct speech to give information and show how people who witnessed the events felt. We will then write our own newspaper reports based on a mystery that we have read about or experienced ourselves.

## Science

### Teeth and Digestion

Teeth are important and we need to look after them - and this term we'll be finding out why! We will learn to identify incisors, canines and molars and investigate the job that each type of tooth does. We will also compare our teeth with other animals, looking at differences between carnivores and herbivores. Finally, we will discover what causes tooth decay and how we can prevent it.

This half-term, we'll be learning about...

# ANCIENT EGYPTIANS

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## The Arts

Linking in with our history work, we will be making our own Canopic jars, using old jam jars and modelling clay, and painting our own hieroglyphics.

In music, we will be using glockenspiels to explore rhythm, pitch and pattern, innovating around a melody and playing in small groups.

## Maths

We will begin the term by investigating measurement. We will estimate, measure and compare different lengths, masses and capacities, and revise our use of standard metric units (metres, millimetres, litres, kilograms etc.) We will develop our ability to convert between different units (eg.  $0.73\text{m} = 73\text{cm} = 730\text{mm}$ ), and will then use these skills to solve measure problems. We will also explore the measurement of time, learning to read clocks and calculate time intervals. Later in the term, we will move on to develop our use of bar charts, pictograms and line graphs to present data. We will identify the difference between discrete and continuous data and use this to decide which type of graph to use.

## Humanities

### History: Ancient Egypt

We be exploring life in Ancient Egypt, looking in particular at the role of the Pharaoh in their society. We will learn about the lives of some of the most famous pharaohs, and compare them with modern day kings, queens, presidents and prime ministers. We will also be investigating the variety of gods that the Ancient Egyptians believed in and learning about some of the stories that were told about their adventures, which people worshipped and the way that the Egyptian remains of their civilisation and think about the reasons why they are remembered today.

## PE

Keeping fit, happy and healthy is always important. There are links to lots of great resources and workouts to help everyone in the family get active at [www.sportengland.org/jointhemovement](http://www.sportengland.org/jointhemovement)

## Computing

- It's Safer Internet Day on February 11th, so this is a good opportunity for us all to talk about the way that we stay safe online. This year's focus is on avoiding online scams - you can find out more at [saferinternet.org.uk/](http://saferinternet.org.uk/)

Ideas for supporting learning at home:

## Science

- There are lots of resources to support our topic on the BBC Bitesize website at [www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zcyycdm/articles/z8784xs](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zcyycdm/articles/z8784xs)
- Help your child to improve the way they brush their teeth - the NHS website has advice on doing this at [www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-teeth-and-gums/taking-care-of-childrens-teeth/](http://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-teeth-and-gums/taking-care-of-childrens-teeth/)

## The Arts

Ancient Egypt offers loads of opportunities for home art and DT projects - try some of these sites to get started:

- [www.activityvillage.co.uk/ancient-egypt-crafts](http://www.activityvillage.co.uk/ancient-egypt-crafts)
- [artscraftsymom.com/ancient-egypt-crafts/](http://artscraftsymom.com/ancient-egypt-crafts/)
- [www.artfactory.com/egyptian\\_art/egyptian\\_art\\_lessons.htm](http://www.artfactory.com/egyptian_art/egyptian_art_lessons.htm)

## Maths

So much of what we do in class depends on the recall of tables facts, so it would be brilliant if you could work on these at home. Focus on one table at a time and try:

- Making-up rhymes to help remember number facts ("4 x 6 is 24, bears growl and lions roar!")
- Looking for numbers in that table in the world around you - on doors, car number plates, in phone numbers or when you're out shopping.
- Writing-out tables with finger paints, chalk or water-on-tarmac, or make them from playdoh.
- Chanting, singing, whispering... Say tables out loud together whenever you have the chance.

## Humanities

- In history this term we are learning about the Ancient Egyptians, which provides lots of opportunities for learning beyond the classroom - try investigating the history, and making a picture or model of an Egyptian pyramid. There's lots of information, video and links to get you started available on the BBC Bitesize website at [www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zg87xnb](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zg87xnb)
- If you're looking for something to do one weekend, the British Museum is free to visit and has a large collection of Egyptian statues, mummies and jewellery - find out more at [britishmuseum.org](http://britishmuseum.org)
- We'll be investigating the role of Egyptian gods, so see what you can find out about Ra, Osiris, Anubis, Isis and Horus (to start with - there are lots more!)

## English

- Constant practice of reading - and discussion of what's been read - is just about the most valuable thing you can do at home. Try to listen to your child as often as possible.
- Spelling homework goes out every Thursday, so please help your child to learn these. You can find more advice on supporting spelling at: [www.bedwell.herts.sch.uk/learning/spelling\\_strategies.pdf](http://www.bedwell.herts.sch.uk/learning/spelling_strategies.pdf)
- Later in the term we will be exploring newspaper reports, so reading and sharing examples at home would be really helpful. Does the report tell you who, what, when and where and why? Why do you think the editor chose to run this story first? What differences can you spot between newspapers?



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