



Summer Term 2021

Thank you

Firstly, we'd like to say a big thank you for all your amazing support last term and for doing a brilliant job with juggling lockdown, your own jobs and supporting your children's learning. Here's hoping we have a 'normal' term!

Curriculum this term

We have a History focus this term- the topic being Ancient Egyptians. Our big question is "Will we ever be able to prove if there is an afterlife?"

We continue to prioritise the children's mental health and well-being, but also get into a more normal routine to ensure we give the children the best chance to cover the parts of the National Curriculum which we need to. The main thing we have noticed is their ability to complete work quickly- during lockdown we slowed the pace so we need to wind them back up to a faster speed, and their handwriting and presentation needs some work. They have found reading at speed really tricky, so any extra reading you can do at home with them will be really beneficial as this has such an impact on all other areas of the curriculum.

Year 4 times tables

We will be trialling the national year 4 times table test which is to become statutory from June 2022. It is a 25 question test on tables up to 12 x 12 which is completed on a tablet. I am hoping we will get copies of the results so you will get these too, but just in case the children mention it, I wanted you to know what they were talking about. I will not be making a big deal out of it so please don't worry! If you know your child finds tables hard- Doodletables is excellent at helping them.

SMART learning

If you have any books, artefacts, research etc about the Ancient Egyptians then please do some project work we can put on display.

Please try to do Doodlemaths at least once a day at home. Doodle also have

Doodletables, DoodleSpell and DoodleEnglish which we have purchased for all the children, so their Doodlemaths login will work for all the apps. You just need to download them all. They will make a massive difference to your child's attainment and if you know they find tests hard- this is a fun way to get them used to answering questions about lots of different types of maths or English.

Reading or sharing a book each day can make such a difference- ask questions about the text, the characters, the story etc. Make sure the children aren't guessing words, missing bits out and rushing through text. To help with maths- times tables, counting forwards and backwards, doing basic mental addition and subtraction will help them with their mental fluency. It can be the really simple things that make a big difference when they are done regularly and in short bursts.

Swimming

We will be swimming after half-term for 7 weeks on a Monday morning. Children will need a swimming hat, one piece costume / jammers / trunks (baggy board shorts make improving swimming strokes really hard) and goggles. Please make sure everything is named. We will change before we get on the coach so we only have to use the changing rooms after swimming, so if they want to wear their kit under their school clothes then that is fine- just remember to pack underwear for afterwards!

As always, if you have any concerns or queries, please let me know as soon as possible. Either by email or Dojo message or in person if you drop at the village hall for the walking bus.

Thank you for being such supportive parents!

Stay safe,
Holly and all the 4/5 team

Mr Bush
Mrs Bennett
Mrs Madigan
Miss Ripley