

**St Philip's**

CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



**Year 4**  
**St. George Class**  
**Autumn Term 2016**  
**Parent Information Pack**

## Welcome to the Autumn Term

Welcome back to a new and exciting school year! We are thrilled to be setting off on a new adventure with our lovely Year 4 class. Let's see how much we can possibly learn together this year, starting with our first Learning Journey, "Walk Like an Egyptian"...

### English

In English we shall be reading *Egyptian Cinderella*, *The Gold in the Grave* and *The Plot on the Pyramid*. In addition we will also be using reference books to discover more about Egyptian life, culture, and mythology. These will link in with our learning journey and enable the children to practice various literacy skills, including narrative work, newspaper reports and instruction writing.

As before we will continue to build on their reading achievements and the students will continue to bring home a variety of books to share with you. We again ask you to encourage your child to read on a daily basis and complete their reading journals to help track their progress.

As well as reading, it is important for the children to discuss the story, or text, to show a good level of understanding and to be able to answer questions about what they are reading.

Weekly spelling activities and handwriting practice will also be taught in the week.

### Mathematics

In mathematics this term, we shall be learning about:

- Number, place value, rounding
- Mental addition and subtraction
- Multiplication
- Division
- Fractions
- Geometry: properties of shapes
- Measures
- Data handling
- Written addition and subtraction

The children will be further encouraged to learn their times tables up to, and including, the 12 times table.

### **Science**

In science this term we will be learning about electricity and sound, as well as investigating how they work. Our studies of sound will focus on experimenting with different qualities of sounds, such as pitch and vibration. In addition, we will look into how our ears work to intercept and process these sounds. Within our electricity topic we will look at the logistics and practical uses of circuits, switches, conductors, and insulators, as well as applying this knowledge to design Christmas toys.

### **Computing**

ICT will continue to be integrated through the curriculum. We will be using the internet to research topics, gather data and present it in a variety of forms,

The topics we will be exploring will include the units "We are software developers" and "We are toy designers", as well as research around Egyptians and electricity.

### **History**

We will be looking at the Egyptians. We will be learning about these people and we will take a closer look at their culture, daily life, Gods and beliefs, hieroglyphics, pyramids, and monuments.

There will be a visit to Brighton Museum to complement our learning about these times and people.

### **Geography**

We will be examining and comparing features of modern and ancient Egypt, including naming and locating the use of land and geographical features.

We will also explore and compare the climates and industries between different countries.

### **Physical Education (PE)**

Children will continue to learn why warming up and cooling down are important and how physical activity affects their health and personal fitness. They will be encouraged to choose and apply skills more consistently during these activities;

- Dance.
- Netball
- Football
- Gymnastics

### Music

This term we shall be starting our recorder lessons in class every Tuesday. Pupils shall receive their own instruments and will begin learning the processes and musicality behind playing the recorder. In addition, pupils will rehearse and perform in the Christmas Nativity.

### Spanish

This school year, children in Years 3 and 4 will be learning Spanish as a new addition to the St. Philip's curriculum. The children will begin to learn how to use a foreign language and learn the correct pronunciation of Spanish words and phrases.

Topics covered will involve: where is Spanish spoken?, hello / how are you?, names / alphabet, families, numbers up to 10, colours, and Christmas.

### EPR

- **New Beginnings** - children will develop their knowledge, understanding and skills in four key social and emotional aspects of learning: empathy, self-awareness, social skills and motivation.
- **Getting on and falling out** - children will develop their knowledge, understanding and skills in three key social and emotional aspects of learning: empathy, managing feelings (with a focus on anger) and social skills. - This theme focuses primarily on the key aspect of motivation.
- **Say no to bullying** - Children will explore what it is, how it feels, why people bully, and how we can prevent and respond to it, and how they can use their social, emotional and behaviours skills to tackle this crucial problem.

### Art and Design Technology

Cooking and nutrition: Egyptian flatbread and mezze.

Death masks: The Egyptians strongly believed in life after death and made death masks to help spirits identify their bodies in the afterlife. We will be designing our own versions of these artefacts to make and display.

Toy design: In conjunction with ICT and science, we will be researching how toys are designed and we will then design and make our own toy using electricity.

Clay Canopic jars: Using clay, we will form and etch Canopic jars decorated with Egyptian hieroglyphics.

### **Religious Education (R.E)**

Topics to be covered this term include: People, Called, Gift, and Judaism.

### **Homework**

In line with the current school homework policy this will be set every Friday to be handed in the following Wednesday. This will include spellings for a test every Wednesday. Reading and times tables practice should happen, as usual, every week.

We do hope that this pack proves useful to you, if you would like any further information about topics we are covering in school, please do not hesitate to come and speak to us.

Many thanks,

Megan Feldman and Tracey Joyce

Year 4 Team