



STJB Rowan Class

Mysterious Mummies

September 2018

Fabulous French

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new academic year and to a brand new start for us all. I hope that you have had a really good summer, especially with the beautiful weather we have been experiencing recently. I am settling in to the school well and enjoying getting to know all of the children!

This term is an action packed one with so many exciting activities and opportunities.

Our topic, 'Mysterious Mummies', involves many different aspects of Ancient Egyptian history as well as the geography, centred around rivers, specifically the River Nile.

In English, we will be starting with a recount, sharing our summer activities and starting to write in role as an Egyptian character. We will be covering our Egyptian topic work through the books *The Journal of Nakht* by Richard Platt and *The Scarab's Secret* by Nick Would. We will be looking at newspapers, diaries and information texts. There will be a strong focus on the grammar requirements of the National Curriculum through their reading and writing.

In Science this term, we will be learning about 'Forces and Magnets'. Levers, gears and pulleys will also be linked to our Design Technology curriculum. There are some really fun activities for building models linked to the Ancient Egyptians.

In Maths, place value, addition and subtraction will be the focus of the first half term. We will be looking at mental strategies and the more formal written methods as well as applying these in a variety of real life contexts. In the second half term we will start to look at

multiplication and division.

Children will begin to work throughout the term on obtaining a fast recall of their multiplication facts and number bonds. Weekly assessments will take place and certificates will be awarded to those children who successfully achieve the tasks. So lots of practice at home please!

In Computing, the children will be covering 'e-safety' which is a vitally important area of the curriculum. It is so important that the children know what to do and what not to do when on the internet or using social media. Over a series of lessons the children will develop an awareness of the advantages of the web, but also heighten their understanding of the dangers and how to avoid them. We will also learn to apply Microsoft Word and PowerPoint features to our learning and we will create Wordles.

Open Futures for Rowan class this half term will be Philosophy for Children (P4C) with Mrs Stoner. P4C helps to develop the children's thinking, speaking and listening skills.

During PE, the children will be developing skills in gymnastics and in a variety of invasion games. **The children will need their full PE kits in every day, but particularly Mondays and Wednesdays.**

In Art, the children will be studying, and creating their own, Ancient Egyptian death masks (like Tutankhamun's) as well as learning about hieroglyphics.

In RE, in the first half term, Rowan class will be looking at the messages in the story of Noah, creating a piece of work to reflect the message that they feel is the most important in the story.

Mrs Stoner will be teaching Rowan class French on a Monday afternoon, helping them to develop their French speaking, writing and comprehension skills.

This is just an outline of what the children will be exploring this term. In Rowan class, children will move around, sitting in a variety of seats over the year. This will develop their confidence and ability to work with a wide range of people.

Spellings— These should be practised 5 times a week, preferably daily rather than all in one go. Each word needs to be written in to a sentence as well. Some spellings may be given more than once if they are being repeatedly misspelt in your child's work.

Reading — Ideally, the children will read everyday (hopefully for pleasure), and for the first half term, they are expected to have been heard by an adult at home at least twice and have their reading record signed each time. After half term, this expectation will rise to 5 times per week.

Times Tables — Times tables are a vital mathematical skill to learn and will come in useful throughout your child's life. For homework, they need to practise one times table, including its division facts and bring their homework in on a Tuesday to show me what they have done. The times table they have will be linked to their 'Maths Planet' level which will regularly be assessed.

Any questions? Please email me at office@st-john-baptist.w-sussex.sch.uk