



Axolotl Class Year 3/4 Spring Term

Our Topic

Our **topic** is Tombs, Torches and Timekeepers we will explore the ancient civilisation of Egypt, life there then and now. What legacy they left us and how it is seen now.

PE

In **PE** we will have indoor and outdoor lessons each week. Our indoor sessions will be gymnastics and dance and our outdoor sessions will be netball and football.

Geography

In **Geography** we will be exploring the key human and physical features in Egypt as well identifying the main cities and their landmarks. In addition we explore importance farming and the significance of the River Nile has had for Egyptians.

Computing

In **Computing**, we will continue to learn some new elements such as coding, branching databases and animation. In branching databases, the children will learn how binary questioning is used to sort data records and how to create a 2D animation.

History

In **History** we will learn about the achievements of this civilisation. Then learn about how and where the ancient Egyptians lived, what was important to the daily lives of ancient Egyptians, who Tutankhamun was and how mummies were made.

Design & Technology

In **D&T**, we will explore how pneumatics work by designing and making their own mummies in a sarcophagus. In addition, the children will learn how to measure and follow a recipe safely and hygienically to make Egyptian bread.

Art

In **Art**, the children will be experimenting with texture and materials by creating papyrus-style paper using techniques such as layering and pressing and using different tools to create an image inspired by Egyptian art. In addition, they will use clay to practise techniques like rolling, pinching, carving, and smoothing to help develop control and precision to create a cartouche.

Music

In **Music**, the children will use Bob Marley's reggae song to learn core musical concepts like pulse, rhythm, pitch, and dynamics. We will continue to develop children's singing, playing, improvising, and composing skills through engaging, differentiated activities.

French

In **French** we will be recapping and the consolidating their knowledge of previous learning and finishing their unit on before moving onto beginning to learn about food, shopping and objects you might find in the classroom. The children will be practising reciting and carrying on conversations in French.

PSHE

In **PSHE** we will focus on living in the wider world helping the children understand how they fit in society, how communities work and how money rules, and responsibilities affect us in everyday life. We will discuss ways and methods to help us and use what we know to live healthily and safety in today's world.

Core Areas of Learning

In **English**, we will write a story imagining where we have discovered a new burial tomb in The Valley of the Kings and a non-chronological report based on the life and legacy of Egypt's most well-known Pharaoh Tutankhamun. In addition, we will look at covering other fiction and nonfiction texts like an explanation text on the process of mummification and a biography. During all these writing tasks we will be looking at learning and consolidating the different elements of punctuation and grammar to enhance our writing. The aim of this is to build on the children's independent writing skills, range of vocabulary and develop good stamina in writing. In our guided reading sessions we will continue to support and develop the children's reading ability to decode, work on the prosody and fluency as well as focussing on key areas of comprehension.

In **Maths**, we will build on their number knowledge by working confidently with numbers up to 1,000 and strengthening both mental and written calculation strategies. We will learn to multiply 2- and 3-digit numbers and solve division problems involving remainders, applying these skills to a range of problem-solving and reasoning activities. The children will also explore fractions, including unit and non-unit fractions, developing their understanding of equal parts and how fractions relate to whole amounts. In measurement, children will apply their mathematical skills to real-life contexts by measuring and calculating length, perimeter and time. A strong focus will be placed on mass and capacity, where pupils will learn to measure, compare and estimate using grams and kilograms, as well as millilitres and litres.

In **Science**, we will explore the topic Tombs, Torches and Timekeepers, where will investigate how light helps us to see and how it has been used throughout history. The children will learn that light is needed to see, that darkness is the absence of light, and they will identify natural and man-made light sources. They will investigate how light reflects from surfaces and how shadows are formed and change. In the second half of the term, we will learn about desert life where will explore how plants and animals survive in hot, dry desert environments where water is scarce and temperatures can be extreme. Children will discover the special adaptations living things have developed, such as storing water, being active at night, or having protective body features.

In **Religious Education**, this term, we will explore key beliefs and practices from Hinduism, Judaism and Christianity. They will learn about Hindu worship in the home, focusing on puja and Diwali, and consider why these are meaningful to believers. We will study the Jewish story of Moses, the Exodus and Pesach, analysing ideas of freedom and salvation. In Christianity, the children will reflect on the Easter story, exploring why Christians call the day Jesus died Good Friday. Throughout the unit, we will develop skills in reflection, questioning and analysis.