



Year 3 and 4 Newsletter



Welcome to our Autumn Newsletter. We hope you've all had a relaxing and enjoyable summer holiday!

We are looking forward to an action-packed term full of exciting learning opportunities. As part of our Egyptian topic, we will be learning all about life in ancient Egypt, including the Nile, pyramids, everyday life and, of course, mummies! We will focus on historical enquiry skills and encourage children to identify historical questions and find out the answers for themselves.

In English, as well as writing our own versions of Egyptian myths, we will be studying a range of fiction, non-fiction and poetry. We will be reading texts such as *Lob* by Linda Newberry and a variety of texts by Emily Gravett. We will then use these texts as a springboard to some amazing pieces of writing including narrative, diaries and non-chronological reports.

Our first science topic is Sound in which we look at how sound is made and test this out by making our own musical instruments. Next half term, we will have fun exploring rocks and their properties. We will be exploring the book *A Rock is Lively* within this topic.

Droxford Learning Base will begin their violin lessons and Egyptian music and rhythms. In art we will be creating our very own Egyptian 'death masks' using modelling materials. In the second half term, we will move on to DT where children will make a moving toy using hydraulics. In RE we will learn about the Jewish festival of Hannukah and look at the concept of messengers through a topic on angels. E-safety is really important to us, so children will be reminded of how to stay safe on line. They then move on to use the programme 'Scratch' to create Egyptian mazes.

This term there will be a visit from our Portswood Penpal where children from Portswood Primary school in Southampton come to visit us for the morning. We're hoping the highlight of the term will be our Christmas Service. This is an opportunity for all children to act, sing or dance and celebrate the magic of the season.

Helping your child at home

We love it when children are so enthused by something they've learned at school, that they do further research at home. We particularly like to see any artefacts you may have or extra projects that the children have been inspired to do. Also we value your expertise so if you have particular knowledge or skills about any of our subjects that you could share then please get in touch.

Please continue to encourage your child to bring their reading diary in every day. They are an important record of their reading and are often used in guided reading and English sessions. Listening to your children read is really important, even for confident readers, as discussing the book helps to improve their understanding. Children need to be practicing their spellings and also be learning the rule. For maths, it's a case of tables, tables, tables! Practising them in a variety of ways to encourage speed and accuracy will make maths lessons easier for your child!

Special events for Year 3 and 4

Year 3 parent open morning- Thursday 14th September

Open afternoon -

Christmas service- Thursday 21st December