



Year 4

**Guide To
Autumn 1
2017**





Our curriculum at Summerlea is creative and designed to forge links between the different areas of learning. Each topic we study is led by a driving question to get us thinking. We have listed the **main** curriculum areas that will be addressed by each question and have given a brief outline of what we will be learning.

This half term our driving question will be...

“What can we learn about Ancient Egypt from the artefacts that have survived?”

History/Geography: We kick-start the term with our Egyptology day and discovery of Tutankhamun’s tomb, and then will use artefacts to learn more about Ancient Egyptian life, their belief system and journey to the afterlife. In our Computing unit, the children will be creating Wiki-pages about the daily life of an Ancient Egyptian child. During this topic we will be comparing the geography of modern and Ancient Egypt, and the UK. This will include labelling maps and recording similarities and differences in climate, terrain and human geography. We will also research and explain the reasons why the Ancient Egyptians settled by the River Nile and how it contributed to their success.

English: This term we will be writing recounts of our tomb discovery as diary entries using descriptive language. In addition, we will explore and then explain the gory process of mummification, choosing an appropriate presentation method for our audience.

Art: We will use our creative talents to produce eye-catching Ancient Egyptian themed prints based on ancient tomb paintings.

Maths:

Our main objectives are to:

Number: Place value

- Count in multiples of 6, 7, 9, 25 and 1000.
- Find 1000 more or less than a given number.
- Recognise the place value of each digit in a four digit number (thousands, hundreds, tens and ones).
- Order and compare numbers beyond 1000 .
- Identify, represent and estimate numbers using different representations.
- Round any number to the nearest 10, 100 or 1000.
- Solve number and practical problems that involve all of the above and with increasingly large positive numbers.
- Count backwards through zero to include negative numbers.
- Read Roman numerals to 100 (I to C) and know that over time, the numeral system changed to include the concept of zero and place value.

Number: Addition and Subtraction

- Add and subtract numbers with up to 4 digits using the formal written methods of columnar addition and subtraction where appropriate.
- Estimate and use inverse operations to check answers to a calculation.
- Solve addition and subtraction two step problems in contexts, deciding which operations and methods to use and why.

Any help at home with learning number facts, times-tables and telling the time would be beneficial!

Talk to your child's Class Teacher for ways to help.

Year 4 news and information

The team:

Mrs Refoy (Beech Class Teacher)

Miss Chaplin (Sycamore Class Teacher)

Mr Burnett (Juniper Class Teacher)

Mrs Kirkwood & Mrs King (Learning Support Assistants)

Exciting days and events:

Egyptology Day: Monday 11th September (see separate letter for more information)

Marchants Hill Meeting: Thursday 21st September at 6pm

Lower Key Stage 2 Harvest collection and Assembly: 10.15am and 1.30pm
Friday 6th October

PE & Library Days:

Outdoor PE: Monday - Sycamore & Beech; Wednesday - Juniper

Indoor PE: Tuesday – Juniper; Thursday - Sycamore & Beech

Library: Friday – all classes

NB: We ask that your child has their PE kit in school every day as there may be unforeseen timetable changes or additional activities planned. Please ensure this comes straight back into school if they take it home after a sports club.

Coats/snacks/drinks and equipment:

Please ensure your child has appropriate clothing for cold/wet weather as we will often still go out when it is raining and remember to ensure they have a separate jumper for outdoor PE. We ask that every child has a water bottle in school and that break time snacks are put in the class box as soon as they come in in the morning.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with your child's Class Teacher if you have any concerns or queries; our doors are always open.

Homework



After considering responses to our homework survey we have made some changes to our policy. Homework is non-statutory and, as previously, there is no requirement to complete a set amount each week.

Our minimum expectation is that all children should read regularly, ideally every day. Spelling and mental/oral maths practise is also important and homework for these two areas will also be set regularly.

Reading

At Summerlea we are positively promoting reading for enjoyment. We want all children to love reading and be able to talk about books they have enjoyed or learned from! Every half-term our school-wide theme will change and we are encouraging children to choose and share texts that fit this in the hope they will be exposed to different types of stories, styles and authors.

*This half-term's theme is... **Animals***

Reading and understanding a full range of text-types and authors will not only bring pleasure but can also develop comprehension, spelling and writing skills. Encourage your child to share and talk about texts with you, visit your local library, hear them read, read to them and enjoy!



Spellings

Spellings will be set every two weeks and sent home in a small book.

There will be 7 words from our pattern we are learning at school and also 3 individual words that the children choose from a set list of errors in their own work.

We have included a spelling strategy sheet to give you a few ideas on how to practise these at home.



Maths

We encourage the practising of key mental maths skills and would like children to practise their number bonds, doubling and halving and times tables.

More practise will lead to better retention!

Your child has their own Mental Maths Passport. In your child's passport is a list of times tables as well as our 'Around The World' objective list. Please spend time practising times tables and your child's Around The World target at home. You can tick them if you think your child has achieved a times table or Around The World target. They will be regularly checked and assessed in class.



6 things to try before half term...

In addition, and in the same vein as the National Trust's '50 things to do before you are 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ ' we have provided a list of suggested activities, linked to the year group topic, your child might like to have a go at during the course of a half term. The suggestions are simply that; ideas to get you and your child thinking about fun and creative ways into exploring learning themes.

Visit a travel agent or website to explore holidays to modern Egypt. Design your own trip! What things would you do? Where would you stay? How would you get there? What new experiences would you try? Can you calculate the cost for a family to visit Egypt on holiday?

Research games that Ancient Egyptian children liked to play. Can you make your own game to share with the class? (Don't forget that you will need a set of instructions!)

Create a fascinating fact file about yourself! What 10 things could you reveal that many of us in Year 4 know nothing about? You could think of ambitions, favourites, skills/talents, achievements...

Create your own tomb or coffin for a mummy. Remember that they are decorated with a picture of the person and must show off their wealth.

Find an Ancient Egyptian recipe (e.g. Egyptian honey cake, Ancient Egyptian bread) to follow and make at home. Take photos to share with the class.

Take on the role of an author, song writer, actor or comic designer to create your own exciting material inspired by Ancient Egypt. (You may want to consider the style of Horrible Histories!)

***If you think of any more topic related tasks to do feel free!
We'd love to hear about, look at and learn from them.***

Preview/review

At the beginning of each half term we would also like to invite your child to reflect on previous learning and look forward to new learning.

*Last half term your big question was
“How does your garden grow?”*

What did you learn?

*This half term our big question is
“What can we learn about Ancient Egypt from the artefacts that have survived?”*

What do you already know?