

Beware...the mummy!

Other business:

Homework, as ever, consists of regular practise of spellings and times tables, through spelling booklets and TT Rock Stars. We insist that the same standards of presentation and care are taken with tasks completed at home, as in school. The Year 5 team would also like to thank all of the parents/carers involved in helping out at school/cake sales and the general smooth running of the year group as you continue to encourage and support your child.

Key dates: Escape room: 24th Feb, World Book Day: 6th March, Parent consultations: Tuesday 31st March and Thursday 1st April, Bristol Museum trip: April 1st.

There is the slightest (albeit faint) whiff of spring in the air as we embark upon a new journey, as we delve into the dark and distant past of the Ancient Egyptians. We will attempt to bring to life the fascinating beliefs and incredible scientific triumphs of this iconic ancient civilisation through research and questioning. Our exciting quest begins on day one as we attempt to break the curse of the mummy and escape the dusty corridors and passages of the pyramids. There might even be a school trip in the offing...

Curriculum:

Science/Topic: In our topic work we will be placing the Egyptians in context, comparing and contrasting them with other significant historical eras, like the Maya. We will also be looking closely at their beliefs regarding the afterlife, their gods and deities, and the way that their society as a whole functioned and flourished. Our science work sees us exploring the notion of pulleys and levers as we examine the science behind a ground-breaking piece of Egyptian design: the Shaduf. We will even be mummifying oranges!

English Through the use of a core text (The Man Who Walked Between The Towers), which is an amazing true story about a daredevil trapeze artist, we shall be writing setting and character descriptions, changing the perspective and tone of our writing to re-imagine the same event, putting together persuasive leaflets and using a variation of writing tricks to create tension and atmosphere. In our Guided Reading we will continue to explore a range of exciting texts, making predictions and answering questions that make us think 'outside the box'.

Maths: As we progress through the term we will be cementing some of the previous concepts we have learnt, especially in relation to fractions as we spend some time trialling a new approach to the way we teach Maths which will encourage a greater emphasis on absolute understanding of key concepts. In turn, this will enable us to move onto aspects of these concepts in a 'deeper' spirit of exploration, focusing on explaining our reasoning in precise mathematical terms.

Art/Design and Technology: In our artwork we will be using pottery skills to create mini sarcophagi to house our mummified oranges, looking at joining techniques and mark making as part of the process. Our design and technology work is closely related to the science focus, as we design and build, then evaluate the effectiveness of our Shaduf.

PE: Gymnastics and tag rugby are the focus, as we learn to create sequences and explore space and levels in performance in the gym and attempt to master team strategies with tag rugby.