



Michael Drayton Junior School

Dear Parents/Carers,

WELCOME BACK and a belated Happy New Year. Year Three have had a very settled start to the new year and are already enjoying our new topics.

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Our Topic

During this half term our main unit of work is on a theme which focuses on the Ancient Egyptians. Many different areas of the curriculum are covered in this topic, including Literacy, Numeracy, Art, ICT, Drama and Dance.

We will be learning about:

- ❖ Gods and Goddesses
- ❖ The importance of the River Nile
- ❖ Tutankhamun
- ❖ Mummification
- ❖ Pyramids
- ❖ Climate and Location

If you have any artefacts or photographs from Egypt which you would like your child to share, please label them and send them in.



Numeracy

In Numeracy the children will continue to use lots of written and mental strategies for the four operations. We will also be learning about Time, Fractions and Grid References.

One of our maths units is about telling the time. Please help children by practising using an analogue clock.



We are continuing to learn the 2,4,5 and 10 times tables. For children who have a secure knowledge of these, they might like to start learning the 3 and 6 times tables.

Please also make the most of any 'real life' experiences at home, e.g. working out the cost of items, expected change when shopping, weighing in cooking, measuring for household jobs etc.

In Art we will be making Egyptian Death Masks and an Egyptian artefact.

ICT will be used across the curriculum with a focus on research skills.

Literacy

We shall be reading a range of texts relating to Ancient Egypt including non-chronological reports, instruction writing and diary recounts.

We will continue to teach handwriting on a weekly basis, Children who consistently join their writing in a neat, cursive style will be awarded our Handwriting Award. After this they are able to use blue handwriting pen in their written work. Pens can be bought from the school office and cost 50p.

Class Assemblies

Friday 3rd February – 10.30 & 2.30 – **3Ho**

Friday 10th February – 10.30 & 2.30 – **3Wa**

Friday 30th March – 10.30 & 2.30 – **3Rs**



Science



After half term we will be focussing on a science topic called 'Helping Plants Grow Well.' We shall be growing a variety of plants and may be appealing for containers, plastic bottles and expert help at a later date!

Music

The Wider Opportunities programme, provided by the County Music Service, will continue this term. Children who have borrowed musical instruments need to remember to bring them to school on Thursdays.



Homework

Congratulations to those children who have already achieved their 20 book Reading Award and to the few other children who are racing ahead.

There is a recommendation that your child spends at least 15 minutes per day involved in reading activities. Please help us to develop their interest and enjoyment in stories and reading.

The children are encouraged to change their reading books as frequently as possible but please ensure that the Reading Record has been signed by an adult.

Spellings are given out on a Monday and tested the following week. Related activities should be handed in by Friday.

Maths homework will continue to be set from the purple Mathspace books. Homework is generally set on Fridays and is always due in on Wednesdays.

PE & Games

Please ensure that your child has the appropriate kit for lessons.

Wednesday, weather permitting, is out door games. Children will need to wrap up warm as we aim to do as many lessons outside as possible. Trainers are essential.

Thursday is indoor PE. Children should bring a white t-shirt and black shorts.

3Ho and 1/3 of 3Rs will be going swimming at Atherstone pool on Thursdays this term.



Dates for the Diary

We look forward to seeing you at one of our Parents' Evenings on:

Tuesday 7th February 3.40 - 5.00pm
Wednesday 8th February 6.00 - 8.00pm

Further information will be issued in a separate letter.

