

Please read this termly newsletter, it is intended to help you to assist your son or daughter with their studies and is an extension of our home-school partnership.

In such a newsletter, we can only provide a brief outline but we hope it will give some idea of the areas that we shall be covering this term. Other information can also be found on our website – [www.heronsgate.org.uk](http://www.heronsgate.org.uk).

#### **Year 5 Staff**

Peacocks: Mrs Dimmock – Year Manager

Pelicans: Mr Wilson

Puffins: Mr Jones

Penguins: Mr Bowskill



#### **CURRICULUM NEWS – Autumn 1:**

Let's travel back 5000 years, to the dusty realms of ancient Egypt. Cruise along the Nile, entering a world of mysteries and curses, mummies and kings. Find out about life on the river's fertile banks, discovering Egypt and its fascinating culture. Unravel the secrets of ancient tombs, using historical sources and ancient artefacts. Find out about powerful pharaohs and grandiose gods. Make yourself a nemes and you'll really look the part. Become an apprentice and work for Ramose, the chief embalmer at the Beautiful House. Help him prepare a body for its journey into the afterlife. Now open the doorway to ancient Egypt. Who knows what treasures you will find?

**English:** We will be focus on writing a range of different text types, including:

Diaries, explanations, letters and newspaper reports. Our primary focus will be on the content, clarity and cohesion of the writing as opposed to text features. Application of spellings and grammar taught will also be key to children's progression. Children will have two SPAG lessons throughout the week where they will recap previously learnt skills and learn new skills which will be recapped in their English sessions.

**Spellings and Grammar:** Children will focus on approximately 10 words a week, which will be sent home with the half termly homework project. Whilst we will practice these through our 'Fast Learning' sessions of which there are four per week, it would be highly beneficial for them to practice these at home too.

**Guided Reading:** Guided reading sessions will take place 4 times a week. During these sessions, children will take part in focused reading activities to develop their understanding of different text types and become immersed in a class text. They will be encouraged to ask questions and make appropriate inferences based on what they have read. Children will complete practice SATS reading questions throughout the year in order to teach and model best responses.

**Maths:** The current curriculum for Maths contains a higher percentage of number work and more focus on using and applying what the children can do mathematically in investigations and problem solving scenarios. This is taught through our Maths No Problem program which was introduced two years ago which has shown great success. This term children will continue to build their knowledge of place value this year, working with numbers up to a million. They will gain confidence in calculating with larger numbers and use these in various problem solving and reasoning challenges.

**Art & Design:** Sketching of ancient Egyptian artefacts through observation. Using different tools to write Hieroglyphics; children will learn about the ancient Egyptians diet and follow a simple recipe to bake flatbread.

## Science:

**PE:** Children will have two sessions per week. This is a compulsory part of the curriculum. We are continuing with PE ready. In the first half term, the children will develop their abilities through multi skills.

### **PE READY DAYS:**

- Peacocks:** Monday and Thursdays,  
**Pelicans:** Tuesday and Fridays,  
**Puffins:** Wednesday and Fridays,  
**Penguins:** Monday and Tuesdays

**Homework:** Half termly projects linked to the topic will continue to be set, with a choice of different styles of presentation for children to choose from. They only need to complete one task. It must be completed to a high standard and handed in on or before the last Monday of each half term. All homework projects will be shared with the class and 5 Marvelous Me points awarded for effort, content and presentation.

In addition, a weekly Maths activity will be sent home on Mondays and will be due in by Thursday of the same week. The children will be given a homework book to stick their homework into. The task will be marked with the teacher on Thursdays. In Year 6, children will also be given a weekly SPAG activity to complete. This will also be marked with the class teacher during one of the two weekly SPAG sessions. Maths and SPAG homework will be rewarded with 1 MME point.

### **How can you support your child at home?**

- Hear your child read or discuss what they are reading
- Encourage them to practise their weekly spellings, use SPAG.com, TT Rockstars and SUMDOG as we set challenges on these forums as well
- Encourage them to use their mental maths to add, subtract, multiply and divide numbers in everyday life, for example there are 7 weeks left of term – how many days at school is that?
- Ensure your child is confident at telling the time. If they are, can they calculate with time? How long until...?
- Support them with their homework projects – we don't mind if it is a team effort
- Allow your child to go on ihub to practice



### **TRIPS & ACTIVITIES:**

As the current government guidance continues to advise against domestic trips for children under 18, we will be incorporating more opportunities for children to experience WOW days or local walks to engage with the topics.



### **Autumn 2**

What sort of man would order the beheading of his wife? Was she really that bad? Travel back in time to the 1500s and meet the terrifying Tudors, a domineering dynasty that changed our history. Discover an opulent court where dancing and singing goes hand in hand with swift falls from favour, and even swifter falling of heads. Develop your painting skills in miniature, solve riddles and remember to protect your precious neck with a large white ruff, if you want to survive at Tudor court. Flex your detective muscles and become a criminal investigator. Will you find out the facts or will the evidence from the past bemuse you? How will you find the accused, innocent or guilty? It's your turn to take part in one of the most famous trials that the world has ever known.