



# Burwell Village College Primary School

Year 4 Newsletter

Summer 2019

Mrs Wesley and Miss Mansfield

## Introduction:

Welcome to the summer term in year 4. This term our topic will have a history focus on the Ancient Egyptians which the children are already very excited about! For the first few weeks of term, both classes will be working with a member of staff from Burwell Museum on an Egyptian art project. Just before the half term break, we will be visiting Norwich Theatre Royal to watch 'Horrible Histories - Awful Egyptians'. After half term, you will be invited into school to participate in our second Busy Bees' Cafés.

The Y4 staff this year are:

4a class teacher - Miss Mansfield  
4b class teacher – Mrs Wesley  
Trainee teacher in 4b – Miss Hamilton

Music teacher – Mrs Andrews  
R.E – Mrs Saunders  
French - Madame Jones  
P.E (4a) – Mrs Woolfe

Teaching Assistants – Mrs Saunders, Mrs Lemon, Mrs Doyle

## Spring term – Ancient Egyptians

### English

We will be studying diary writing as a form of recount and then independently applying these skill when writing diaries in our topic lessons. For our poetry unit we will look at shape poetry. After half term, we will be writing explanation texts. The skills learnt will then be applied to our writing in science. We will finish the year with more narrative writing.

### Grammar, Punctuation and Vocabulary

Each unit that we teach this term will begin with a focus on identifying the grammatical features of the text before we practise applying these elements to our own writing. Over the year, we will cover: word classes (nouns, adjectives, verbs, adverbs, determiners and conjunctions), fronted adverbials, subordinating conjunctions and the use of apostrophes for contractions and possession. The children will then be expected to apply this knowledge when carrying out their independent writing.

### Spelling

Please continue to work on the statutory spellings for year 3 and 4 that are in the back of your child's homework book. Weekly lists are sent home looking at particular spelling patterns and these can also be found on Spelling Shed. Those children working on Hornet or Toe by Toe should continue to do this regularly and use this as the basis for their spelling practice.

### Reading

Please continue to read at home with your child at least five times a week, and record this in their reading record. The comprehension questions on the back of their reading record will support the discussions you can have with your child about their reading. These discussions are invaluable for developing your child's progress in reading. If your child needs to change their school reading book, they should do so when they arrive at school in the morning. In school, we are using Book Talk to enable all children to participate in group reading and discussion on a regular basis.

### Mathematics

Please continue to support your child in learning their multiplication facts up to 12 x 12. A new timetable will be sent home listing the multiplication facts to learn each week and Ninja Maths will continue as before. There are plenty of apps available to reinforce times tables and number bonds and to help speed up children's knowledge. Repetition and practise is a key element to remembering them.

This term we will be looking at decimals, money, geometry, statistics and telling the time.

### Science

This term we will start with a topic on electricity where we will find out what makes an electrical circuit work. After half term, we will link our topic on the Ancient Egyptians and mummification with a unit on the digestive system.

<p><b>Topic</b> This term, our topic 'BIG' question is; "How can we know what happened in ancient Egypt 5000 years ago?" We will begin the topic by taking part in a mini archaeological dig and discover what it means to be ancient. Our explorations will cover many aspects of this fascinating civilization including pharaohs, mummification, pyramids and hieroglyphics, to name a few.</p>
<p><b>ICT</b> In computing we will be looking at databases and learning how to input data into Excel. Later in the term, we hope to explore digital media.</p>
<p><b>PE</b> All PE lessons this term will be outside (weather permitting) and we will be covering the sports of tennis, rounders, cricket and athletics. Please ensure that your child has a fully named PE kit, including trainers and a water bottle.</p>
<p><b>RE</b> Our topic this term will be Saints which will resume after the art project is finished.</p>
<p><b>Art / Design Technology</b> Working with a member of staff from the Burwell Museum, the children will be looking at the artwork on a sarcophagus and will have a chance to work with drawing skills and clay. Later in the term, we hope to create some whole class pieces of artwork using wooden frames and canvas.</p>
<p><b>Homework</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Weekly homework sheet will be set focusing on either maths or another areas of the curriculum (given out on a Wednesday and due in on a Monday). This might occasionally be a My Maths activity to be completed online.</li> <li>✓ Weekly spellings (tested each Monday; lists will be given out weekly).</li> <li>✓ Weekly times tables (tested each Friday; a termly timetable will be sent home).</li> </ul> <p>Reading - Daily reading recorded in the reading record.</p>

## Important Dates

**Important dates:**

- Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May Class photos
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May Theatre Trip
- Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June 4A Busy Bees' Café
- Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 4B Busy Bees' Café
- Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June KS2 Sports Day
- Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July reports out
- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July Move Up Day

**Term dates:**

- Term begins Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April
- Half term Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May – 31<sup>st</sup> May
- End of term Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July

## General Information.

**School Uniform:**

All clothing must be named: white or blue shirt; blue & white checked or striped dress; school sweatshirt, navy cardigan or sweater; grey trousers or shorts; navy skirt or trousers; flat black shoes. School uniforms can be ordered and paid for via the school website.

**P.E. Kit (named please):**

Indoor P.E. kit: blue or black shorts and plain/school logo white or navy blue t-shirt.

Outdoor P.E. kit to include warm top, tracksuit trousers and trainers.

If your child sometimes wears tights, please also include a pair of socks in their P.E. kit.

Earrings must be removed prior to P.E. lessons by the child or parents/ carers. Staff are not allowed to do this.

Water bottles are encouraged but need to be taken home and washed regularly.