

## Panthers' Curriculum Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to what I know will be an exciting year in Panthers. I would like to welcome the new Year 3s to Panthers class and welcome back the Year 4s. I am looking forward to the year to come and starting our first topic, 'Were the Ancient Egyptians ahead of their time?'

If you have any questions or concerns or would like ideas of how to support your child at home then please do email me. I will do my best to answer queries as soon as possible.

Mr Butcher

### Topic

Our big question for this term is: 'Were the Ancient Egyptians ahead of their time?' Relating to many parts of the curriculum, children will learn: to place the Ancient Egyptians chronologically and geographically; what Ancient Egyptian life was like for its people; the significance of the pharaohs and the pyramids; the beliefs of the Ancient Egyptians; and the discovery of the famous archaeologist Howard Carter. They will also learn about Egyptian burial practices and have a go at replicating some of the contents of an Egyptian tomb.

### Science

In Science lessons we will be learning about Animals including Humans. We will focus on the human digestive system, as well as finding similarities and differences between us and other animals.

### Maths

In Maths this half-term we will be learning: place value, rounding, negative numbers, mental and written addition, mental and written subtraction, multiplication and division.

The work we do in school is based around three principles: fluency, problem solving and reasoning. Children are expected to be confident in all areas and are given a balance of practice to develop these.

**All children have log in details for Times Tables Rockstars.** Children are expected to regularly use this to improve their times table knowledge and speed of recall.

<https://ttrockstars.com/>

### English

In English this half-term children will be reading the contemporary historical novel *Secrets of a Sun King* by Emma Carroll. For the whole half-term children will be focusing on developing their fiction writing skills. They will complete focused writing on describing characters and settings. They will also have the opportunity to write some narratives from short film extracts. Finally, they will use the skills they have learnt and developed to write a short adventure story.

### Class cover

**Monday PM:** Mrs Gray (MFL)

**Thurs PM:** Mrs Halmshaw  
(Music and PSHE)

### PSHE

In the Autumn term we will be thinking about the questions 'How can we be a good friend?' and 'How do we treat others with respect?' We will be looking at the idea of friendship, behaviour towards others, wellbeing, privacy and the rights of people. Within the questions, we will be involving the children in discussions where they will be able to share their opinions and ideas.

### School Website

Please check our school website regularly to find out what the Panthers have been learning in class. I will update our class page frequently with photos and videos.

<http://www.kenninghallprimaryschool.com/>

### P.E.

This year Leopards will have one P.E. lesson each week: on a **Tuesday** afternoon and will have PE on a **Friday** afternoon until we are able to confirm the situation regarding swimming.

**Please make sure your child comes to school in their P.E kit on those days.** If your child cannot take part in PE, **please ensure they have a doctor's note explaining the reason.**

### Homework

As last year, the children will receive weekly Spelling and Maths homework.

**Spelling homework will be given out on Fridays** and spellings should be practised for a test on the following Friday. These will be available in both paper and digital form, through Spelling Shed.

**Maths homework will be given each week** through the practicing of times tables, throughout the year there will be a strong focus on recall of **times tables**.

### Reading Records

We have a new reading record for this year. We encourage the children to read every day, either independently or to an adult, and recommend all pupils aim for at least four days of reading recorded in their records. Together with this, we also encourage pupils to record the number of times they have practiced their spellings and times tables in the week. They will be listened to reading at school by an adult whenever possible. We encourage children to read frequently as part of our new Reading Ladder scheme; each contribution from a child allows a book to be placed on the ladder, when each of the four rungs are full, the class receives an amount of money to spend on new books for their classroom.