

Class 5 Curriculum Update

Friday 18th February 2022

Monthly values – 'Peace' and 'Empathy'



Before you all have a good half-term break, let me just share with you some of the work we have been doing in Year 5 lately.

Our current theme is entitled 'Pharaoh Queen' and is a study of Ancient Egypt. As well as understanding the location of Egypt and its position on our timeline, we will focus on one of the pharaohs in particular - Queen Hatshepsut. She had a unique circumstance that led to her becoming pharaoh but perhaps even more fascinating is the way in which she was seemingly erased from history for over a thousand years. We have also learnt about the role of the Aswan Dam and how it has affected the important River Nile for both positive and negative reasons. There have been lots of art opportunities too, with creating our own representations of Ra - the sun god of Egypt - and making representations of papyrus paper to work on. Finally, we have also linked this in with our R.E. work, which has focused on Judaism. In examining why the 'Torah' is so important to Jews, we looked at the story of Moses leading the Jewish people out of slavery in ancient Egypt and into their promised land. There is a theory, that the daughter of Pharaoh, who saved baby Moses in the bulrushes, was indeed Hatshepsut. The children took their learning of the 10 commandments into making their own 10 rules for a safe and prosperous school. Although we have been studying the ancient past, we have seen how we can still learn from it and the children have been very interested in all things Egyptian.



Curriculum visits

We have several opportunities coming up over the next few weeks where we are planning to use our local area to enhance our learning. Further details will be released nearer the times but we aim to visit Hereford city centre for a walking tour of historic sites, BT Madley Communications Centre and also Gigrin Farm near Rhayader to observe the Red Kites feeding.

English

As a class, they have loved sharing and discussing our 'Choose your own Adventure' book set in Ancient Egypt. They have all been inspired to create their own books full of choices and decisions for the reader to decide on. This has been a big project and the children have all been working very hard on this. We aim to complete these after half-term and hopefully be able to share them with another class but also with you! I know the children are all excited with their books so far and look forward to the next parents evening or opportunity for you to come in and see their work.



Homework

Thank you for your support with regular practising with times tables and spellings. 10 spelling words are sent home each week. I don't mind whether the children use SpellingShed or they practise in their homework books, as long as they are practising in some way. Each child also gets some times tables practise to complete as well. TTRockstars is a great additional tool to practise and become confident in knowing all the times tables as both multiplications and divisions.



Please feel free to speak to me (via phone or email) if you have any worries or concerns regarding your child, whether it is to do with at school or at home.

From Mr Ford, Mr Batstone and the Year 5 Team.