

# Hedgehog Class' Curriculum Newsletter

Summer 1



**As readers,** Hedgehog Class will continue to read daily in either their Read Write Inc. phonic groups or with their Reading Rangers comprehension groups. In phonics, the children will continue to read books appropriate to their reading level, and will explore Ancient Egyptian inspired narratives with their teacher. Following on from 'The Journey' and linking to their English unit, the Reading Rangers groups will also explore Ancient Egyptian inspired narratives as well as looking at non-fiction texts on the Ancient Egyptians.

**As writers,** the children will be exploring the story, 'The Great Kapok Tree'. The children will explore the features of narrative texts with a message and learn and apply the skills needed to write an effective story with a character transformation.



**As mathematicians,** we will continue exploring mathematical terms such as numerator and denominator, count fractions on number lines, explore fractions as bar models and find fractions of amounts. Year four will develop their understanding of tenths and hundredths, as well as mixed numbers and improper fractions, whilst years two and three will begin to learn about mass and capacity.

**As scientists,** the children build on their learning of how plants grow by learning the names of many different plants, their different parts and the jobs they do. They will look at seeds to decide on their method of dispersal, work scientifically to investigate what plants need to grow well, and explore the life cycle of a flowering plant and identify the different parts of a flower.



**As athletes,** the children have the opportunity to develop their existing running, jumping and throwing skills, as well as learning new techniques. They will be refining their sprint technique and learning how to work as a relay team by practising an effective baton changeover. They will compete as part of a team, using and applying the techniques they have learnt, try to improve their own performance as well as help others to achieve their personal best.

**As historians,** Hedgehog Class will learn about life in Ancient Egypt using their increasing confidence in using a range of historical sources. They will learn about Howard Carter, the local man who discovered Tutankhamun's tomb, and how this discovery has helped us to understand Ancient Egyptians. We will also make links to the River Nile from last term and how it was used by the Ancient Egyptians.



**As designers,** children of Hedgehog Class will identify the features, benefits and disadvantages of a range of fastening types, from zips to toggles, before considering their own designs for a fabric book sleeve to keep their reading books safe and shielded from damage. The children will also have an opportunity to practise several stitching techniques and design their book sleeve with a stitch they have practised and are confident with.

**As musicians,** we will be exploring music from around the world through listening and appraising 'The Dragon Song' and other traditional tunes/Folk melodies. The children will deepen their understanding of musical features by comparing and listening to how they work together to create a song or piece of music.



**As linguists,** the children will be learning how to understand and give basic directions. They will also learn about the weather and how to describe the weather in different places around the world.

# Hedgehog Class' Homework

Summer 1

## Compulsory

Below details the minimum requirement for compulsory homework. Homework is due on a Monday and the children are well practised in signing into their accounts for any homework set online. Children are rewarded with 'dojo points' for the completion of homework each week. If you are having trouble logging into or using TTRockstars or Spelling Shed, do let us know so we can support you and your child/children with this as soon as possible.

Reading	Times Tables	Spellings
<p>Read four times a week with your child and record this in their reading record. This is the minimum requirement and children are encouraged to read more. Older children may read to themselves and record this in their record, but a parent/carer must sign this. Reading records are collected by the teacher on a Friday and Monday.</p> 	<p>Complete the 'session' set for you by your teacher. Depending on the year group, children will be asked to practise between 20 and 45 minutes a week. This is the minimum requirement and children can spend longer practising. Time spent practising times tables will be recorded on your child's screen and is shared with their teacher.</p> 	<p>Complete the weekly spellings set for you by your teacher. Depending on their spelling group, children will have between 15 and 25 games to complete. This is the minimum requirement and children can spend longer practising to earn the 'Royal Bee' status, which shows that you child can spell words accurately and quickly.</p> 

## Optional

These subject based homework activities are for you and your child/children to explore together at home. They are a great opportunity to immerse your child/children in the topics and units of work coming up in the next term and have been designed to include a range of suggestions that would appeal to all. Children are rewarded with 'dojo points' for the completion of any optional activities, but these homework activities should not be done in the place of reading, times tables and spellings.

French	History	Science
<p>What does the geography of France look like? What are the major towns and cities? What's the weather like? Research these alongside our French to understand this unit deeper.</p>	<p>What is modern Egypt like now? Write a report based on your own research. What key facts can you find out about how people live there now?</p>	<p>Children present their knowledge of the life cycle of flowering plants in a creative and unique way. This could be as a poster, a piece of art or anything that shows how a plant goes from seed to flowering.</p>
<p><b>Design &amp; Technology</b></p> <p>Try your hand at sewing at home. What things could you make with a needle, thread and some fabric? What stitch techniques can you explore?</p>	<p>Pharaoh School: Imagine that you are running a school for pharaohs. What would the school look like? What would the uniform look like? Design a school building and uniform for the young pharaohs there, making sure to include as many links to Ancient Egypt as you can.</p>	<p><b>English</b></p> <p>What other rainforest stories can you find? With a parent/carer, use your local library to find and explore other rainforest inspired books. There's lots out there!</p>