

9US Upper School Curriculum Newsletter



Summer Term 2019

The teaching of **Maths** will be the **whole school focus** for this year.

Lesson observations took place during last autumn term with the focus on how numeracy is taught across the curriculum. Teachers shared good practice.

Science will be a focus during this Summer term of 2019.

Food Technology

In Food Technology pupils will be exploring the use of 'fish' as the key ingredient in a variety of simple recipes.

Art

This term art will take place in the Art Room with Mrs Lloydlangston. Pupils will explore the art of Ancient Egypt concentrating on the 'Eye of Horus'. They will research and explore the eye through observation and collage. They will design and create their own 'Eye of Horus' and translate the 2 dimensional image into a 3 dimensional mask. For this part of the project they will work over a mould to create their own design using cardboard and 'mod roc'. They will complete their work by painting on their carefully created design.

Computing

Computing this term will focus on the discovery that ICT can be used to control objects in the environment. Pupils will learn that certain actions produce predictable results. They will be making connections between control devices and information on screen and making choices to produce different outcomes. They will be learning that machines and devices can be controlled and used creatively to develop and express ideas.

Science

This term our Science focus is on forces. Pupils will explore a range of pushes and pulls. Through investigation and experimentation they will demonstrate a range of pushes and pulls. They will be encouraged to describe, using some scientific vocabulary, a range of pushes and pulls.

Pupils will experience making objects go fast(er) and slow(er) - and will experience themselves starting, stopping and changing direction through physical activities.

Humanities

Our humanities focus is History. Pupils will be researching and exploring Ancient Egypt. They will use an atlas to locate Egypt and Google Earth to see how Egypt looks today. Pupils will use information books and the internet to research key facts. They will explore creating a pyramid out of clay, using a 3D shape as a mould and create their own mummification by wrapping up a small object.

How is my child's progress being recorded?

All pupils are continuously assessed using SOLAR, which breaks down P Levels and National Curriculum Levels into small steps, so that we're able to track progression through each level.

Music

In Music pupils will celebrate the achievements of the Ancient Egyptians. They will explore 20th Century minimalist music inspired by the story of Akhenaten and compose music using a layered pyramid structure. Pupils will develop an understanding of both the history of music and musical composition techniques.

Maths

In Mrs Mole's group, we will be looking at using non standard units to measure length and height and make comparisons. They will explore handling shapes and recognise them in different orientations and sizes and learn that rectangles, triangles, cuboids and pyramids are not always similar to each other. They will be exploring vocabulary, ideas, and opinions on theme of Shape, Space and Measures'. Pupils will have the opportunity to make use of ICT whenever appropriate to support their learning.

Emma Nolan's group will develop their confidence and mental fluency with whole number, counting and place value. This will involve working with numerals and words, including practice resources. They will also be able to use a range of measures to describe and compare different qualities such as length, mass, capacity/volume and time.

PSHE

Pupils in 9US will continue to have 'Options' on a Friday afternoon. They have the opportunity to change their option choices this term. Pupils have selected activities such as Lego Therapy, Construction, Irish Dancing, Relaxation and Beauty. Merryn the therapy dog will continue to visit us fortnightly. Our Positive Mental Health theme will focus on 'Being Kind', 'Fair', and Taking Turns'. Pupils will be encouraged to talk about friendships and what it means to be a good friend.

P.E., Swimming and Fitness

P.E this year is on a Monday. The first half of the term the pupils will be focusing on the Athletics skills of throwing, running and jumping. The second half term the focus will be striking games and playing in a team. Swimming takes place on a Thursday. The pupils will continue working towards the Dolphin Awards. There will be a focus on safety in the water.

Forest School

Pupils will experience weekly sessions in our outdoor 'Forest School' environment, with a qualified Leader. These will take place on a Monday. Please ensure that your child has appropriate outdoor clothing. Pupils will be looking at 'Growth and Change', and will have the opportunity to investigate the life cycle of frog spawn and caterpillars.

English

Mrs Mole's group will focus on a range of texts that explore our topic on 'Egypt Rocks'. Pupils will explore creating a poem based on their understanding of key facts about Egypt.

The literacy focus will be studying 'We're sailing down the Nile' by Laurie Krebs, and through narrative, pupils will explore the incredible journey the author takes, as the characters arrive at seven exciting destinations.

Pupils will engage in sensory stories based on Egypt, and will take ownership of how the story develops. Pupils will have an appropriate reading book which will be set according to their current phase within letters and sounds.

Emma Nolan's Group:

The literacy focus for this term will be completing the study of Treasure Island; the pupils will listen to extracts, exploring the narrative, and looking at the meaning and comprehension of the text.

The pupils will also engage in role play based on a pirate theme to deepen their understanding of the topic.

During the lessons the pupils will also get the opportunity to extend their phonics knowledge with multi sensory activities.

How can parents and carers support their child's learning?

Please use the Home-School books to communicate any useful information or interesting news about your child. Please provide any snacks for your child for break times, if appropriate. If you have any concerns, please feel free to call us. (If we can't come to the phone, we will call back as soon as we are able to.)
THANK YOU!