Happy New Year! What a fantastic way to start 2020, by exploring the fascinating world of Ancient Egypt! We will use our geographical knowledge to locate Egypt and revise our locational knowledge of continents and key countries. Our main focus will be on beliefs in the afterlife and how this shaped the daily lives of Ancient Egyptians. A diverse range of topics will give pupils a broad understanding of aspects of Ancient Egyptian life such as the role of the River Nile and the hierarchy of Ancient Egyptian society. Pupils will learn about the work of archaeologists in uncovering tombs and how their discoveries have shaped our knowledge of Ancient Egypt today. In particular, through the use of drama and exploration of first-hand accounts, we will focus on the work of Howard Carter and the discovery of King Tutankhamun’s tomb. This will create opportunities for a range of writing such as letters, non-fiction and newspaper accounts.

In art and design, we will learn the rules of the Egyptian style of art known as frontalism and progress from sketching to watercolours in order to produce a painting of an Egyptian god or goddess. Our work on scale factor in mathematics will also be utilised when making miniature paintings, sculptures and shabti figures in order to eventually produce a miniature, annotated version of a Pharaoh’s burial tomb. This will also reflect our learning on Egyptian beliefs in the afterlife and we look forward to sharing these with you.

In science, we will be focusing on forces and magnets. We will be exploring the force of gravity and the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction. Our design and technology is linked to our science where we will be designing and making ‘shaduf’ machines to show how Egyptian farmers lifted water out of the River Nile. Our first computing unit will focus on e-safety and encompass all forms of communication through mobile phones, computers and other hand-held devices. Our second unit will use the coding program Scratch to allow children to create a legend of their own using their knowledge of Ancient Egyptian gods and goddesses.

In RE, we will be studying a variety of scriptures to identify why Christians believe God is holy and loving and the implication this has on how Christians choose to live their lives. Our work in PHSE will continue to expand understanding of ‘The Zones of Regulation’ by teaching specific calming techniques and ways to analyse a situation and rationalise how significant a problem is before responding.

Dance (Mondays) and Invasion Games (Fridays) will form our core PE teaching however PE kits should continue to be in school every day. Spelling homework will continue to be set on Mondays and is due in on a Monday. Other homework will continue to be set on Fridays and due in on Wednesdays. In addition, our topic homework menu is attached.

If you have any questions or any concerns, please speak to either of us. We are very much looking forward to another term of exciting learning.

Many thanks for your support,

Miss Felton and Ms Price
Swallow Class Teachers