

Swavesey Primary School

Middle Watch, Swavesey,
Cambridge. CB24 4RN

www.swavesey.cambs.sch.uk



Head Teacher: Mrs Lynsey Ogilvie

Telephone: (01954) 273312

e-mail: office@swavesey.cambs.sch.uk

Dear Parents,

We hope that you have had a wonderful summer break and enjoyed some quality family time. The school year has started positively, and it has been wonderful seeing the children move into their new classes with confidence. Their readiness and responsibility to learn has been quite remarkable and they should be proud of themselves.

The Autumn term is a busy time; there are plenty of exciting events and activities arranged including book fairs, interactive curriculum days and of course our annual Christmas celebrations. Our priority is for your child to learn whilst having fun exploring new ideas and concepts with their friends.

Our unit of work this term is history and is based around the '**Ancient Egyptians**.' We welcome visitors into school so if you have expertise in this area, or know of someone that does, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please see the attached overview which outlines our plans across the curriculum.

We have arranged a History Off the Page's virtual workshop based around the history unit on 'The Ancient Egyptians' during the week beginning the 16th of November. This is led virtually by specialised teachers and aims to deepen the children's understanding of the period. Each workshop includes up to six activities which are designed to be creative, immersive and fun.

Maths lessons will take place every day within your child's classroom with a priority on building numeracy skills, solving real life problems and explaining reasoning. **Weekly times tables tests** will help your child's mental recall and build up stamina and resilience when learning tricky times tables in preparation for the government Multiplication Times Tables Check (MTC) at the end of Year 4 when the children will be tested on all x tables up to 12 x 12 and will be given only 6 seconds to answer each question. Children will be **tested weekly on spellings** that will follow a spelling pattern or words that are taken from the **tricky Year 3 and 4 spelling list consisting of 109 spellings**. Again, we ask that you help your child practise and learn these weekly spellings. **Spellings tests for all classes will take place on a Friday, whilst x tables tests will take place on a Monday for Kingfishers and a Friday for Badgers and Swans.**

Daily stand-alone reading time has been prioritised which will involve reading aloud as part of a class, working in pairs and individually to develop fluency and expression whilst also developing comprehension skills. We expect all children to be reading at home **daily for at least 20 minutes**; even the most proficient readers still need to practise reading aloud and practise reading to an audience. We would be grateful for your help in assuring that your child has an audience to read to. Close links with reading and writing will be utilised and we will be exploring a variety of texts and authors' use of vocabulary and sentence structures which we will then try to apply to our own writing.

During Wednesday morning PPA time, the Year 3 and 4 teachers work closely together to assess pupils' progress and plan lessons. This ensures consistency across the classes and allows for professional conversations to take place. During this time, the pupils are taught a rotation of subjects which include PE, music and French. Some pupils, who have been identified as requiring swimming lessons to achieve the government's target of swimming 25m unaided, will attend swimming lessons with Mrs Turian. You will receive a note if this involves your child.

We are looking forward to the term ahead, working with your child, supporting them on the next step of their educational journey. If you have any concerns or queries, please be in touch with your class teacher.

The Year 3 and 4 Team



