

Dear parents/carers,

The children have returned after their half-term break with positive attitudes and are well-prepared for learning. They are looking forward to starting our new topic work and the festive celebrations that are ahead.

This half-term our topic is called 'Ancient Egyptians' and the focus will be on geography and history. The children took part in an Ancient Egyptian workshop at school on the first day back and this kick-started their understanding of life in Ancient Egyptian times. In D.T. we intend on making Egyptian death masks and necklaces. Our work in music, P.E. and science will also link, where possible, to the topic.

In literacy we will be continuing to develop skills in grammar and handwriting in weekly sessions. We would like to raise the profile of spelling in the year group and intend on focussing on the most common words used in English. This work will be done in short sessions throughout a week and small tests will monitor progress but the emphasis is on children applying these spellings to their independent writing. We will also be using an extended weekly spelling lesson to teach children about prefixes and suffixes and the different spellings of phoneme sounds. Please support your child with this when they bring words home to practise. Our writing focus for this half term links to our topic and children will be learning to create holiday brochures persuading people to visit Egypt and exploring myths and legends.

There will still be a continued focus on children's understanding of texts this half-term as we feel this is crucial in developing reading and comprehension skills. Please support your child with this by regularly reading and discussing texts with your child at home.

In numeracy children will be developing skills in a wide range of mathematical areas including shape, measures, number and data handling. We will be continuing to test children on their times tables weekly and mental maths tests will happen fortnightly; with an opportunity to reflect on learning and develop understanding in the alternate week.

Things to remember:

- Children are asked to bring their book bag containing their school reading book, reading record and planner every day.
- P.E. for 3NJ is on Wednesday and Friday and for 3DW is on Wednesday and Thursday. Children are asked to bring their kit on a Monday and keep it in school throughout the week so that P.E. lessons can be flexible. All children need indoor and outdoor kit. There have been lots of children without kit recently and this is disrupting lessons so please encourage your child to be independent and prepared for ALL lessons.

We hope the children have another fantastic half-term and continue to enjoy their time at NJS.

The Year 3 team,

Miss Jones

Miss Wood

Mrs Doy

Mrs Wood

Key Dates:

Tuesday 26th November—Year 3 visit to Austerfield Quarry

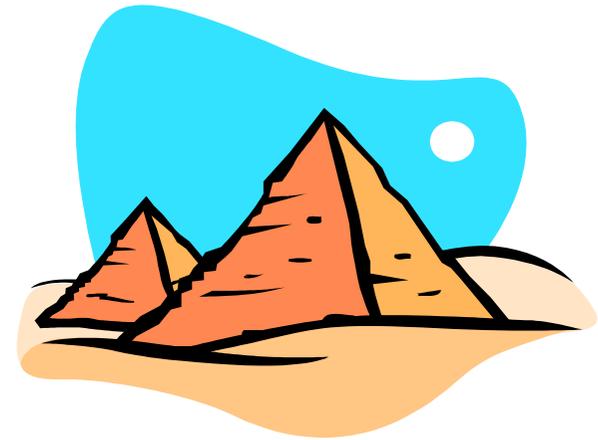
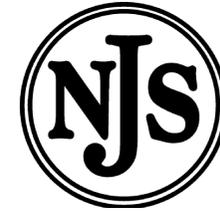
Friday 29th November - Staff training day (school closed to pupils)

Friday 6th December—Christmas Craft afternoon (parents/carers welcome 1:30pm onwards)

Thursday 12th December— Carol Service

Thursday 19th December—Christmas party (PM)

NJS Home Learning Log



Awesome Egyptians Year 3

Autumn Two

Tasks	Choice of Home Learning tasks.	Work completed?	Parent comment.	Teacher comment.
1	Draw or make a pyramid.			
2	Create a timeline of the key events in Ancient Egypt.			
3	Draw the hieroglyphic alphabet.			
4	Imagine you are an archaeologist/explorer who finds a hidden tomb. Write a diary extract to describe your experiences.			
5	Find out about the animals that live in the Egyptian desert and create a fact file about them.			
6	Imagine you are going on a journey down the River Nile . Draw a map and plot some of the places you might see.			
7	Create a new Egyptian god based on an animal of your choice. Draw/make it and give it a name.			

Topic: Awesome Egyptians

Note to parents

Dear Parents,

At the start of each half term the children will be given a home learning log like this one which they must keep for the duration of that half term. The home learning activities will be linked to the topic that the children are focussing on at that time and the activities will be carefully chosen to develop different skills in relation to a variety of curriculum subjects.

The children will be able to chose the order in which they want to complete the activities. It is hoped that this will encourage the children to organise their time and to plan in advance so they can gather relevant materials to complete the art / design based tasks. There will be more home learning activities than there are number of weeks in that half term. It is hoped that this will allow the children to make independent choices about which tasks they would like to undertake.

If the children bring in a piece of work by **Friday** of each week they will receive a merit to go on the class chart. Children can obtain merits for a number of reasons and they add up at the end of the school year and can be cashed in for prizes.

This year all home learning will be displayed in year group areas to allow the children to feel proud of the quality work that they have produced. We hope that this will create interest and give the children the opportunity to learn from others, as well as further reinforce just how much the children and staff value home learning in Norton Junior School.

As you can see there is space for teacher and parent feedback for each home learning task to allow continued dialogue between home and school, please feel free to comment on the task or the work that your child has produced.

We hope that parents and children find each of their half terms task exciting and stimulating. As a school we fully encourage parental involvement with children's learning so please continue to support, value and encourage them to continue their learning at home.

We would like to thank you for your continued support and we look forward to another enjoyable school year.