

Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter

Term 4 Update

Dear Mums, Dads & Carers

We are back with another exciting term of learning taking place. Your child will be covering the following areas of the curriculum this term:

Experience Title	<i>Walk Like An Egyptian</i>	
English – Reading	Walk Like An Egyptian – School Production The Dancing Bear by Michael Morpurgo The Butterfly Lion by Michael Morpurgo The Fox And The Ghost King by Michael Morpurgo	
English – Writing	Non-chron report about deserts presented as leaflet or booklet Narrative writing: setting in Egypt Newspaper report about the pyramids, Tutankhamun discovery	
Maths	Number: Fractions & Decimals	
Geography/History	Geography: Would you like to live in the desert?	History: What did the ancient Egyptians believe?
Art / DT	Art: Ancient Egyptian scrolls	
PSHE	Wellbeing	
RE & World Views	What makes some texts sacred?	
Music	Composition notation (Ancient Egypt)	
French	How old are you? French Transport, Learning 1-31 in French, Days of the Week	
PE	Outdoor: Tag rugby Indoor: Dance	
Computing	Effective Searching & Hardware Investigators	

Homework focus:

- **Reading** – at least 3 x per week recorded in your child's Reading Record book. If your child records 5 x reading per week, they will receive a super ticket!
- **Spellings** – please see activities on Spelling Shed.
- **Times Tables** – log on to TTRockstars to learn your latest times table challenge!

Each week your class teacher will share on Class Dojo what homework is set for English and Maths. Remember it is set every Friday and due in on the following Wednesday!

Do not forget that your child should be coming home with two reading books: a reading book for pleasure and a reading book for learning. Reading Records are checked by staff on a regular basis to ensure that children understand the importance we place upon reading at Joydens Wood Junior School. Reading records should be handed in every **Friday**. Your child should be accessing Times Tables Rockstars to support their number knowledge. Being able to recall multiplication facts is an important skill. Children should be regularly practising their times tables on TTRockstars as this is a fun way to practice them in short bursts! Log ins to this website can be found in your child's Reading Record book. Times tables and Spellings will be tested every Friday. Spelling and times tables books will be sent home so you can check how your child has done. Your child will get weekly spellings, please ensure your child is learning these at home.

Tips for Maths:

Visit these website for tips and hints on how to help your child with their upcoming Maths units.

- Fractions: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zhdwxnb/year/z63tt39>

Tips for Reading:

Before reading...

<ul style="list-style-type: none">Talk about the bookLook at the titleTalk about the pictures	Ask... <ul style="list-style-type: none">What might the book be about?Why do you think that? – what are the clues?What do you hope to find out?What might happen next in the story?Who is the book written for?
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While reading...

Ask...

<ul style="list-style-type: none">What do you think is happening here?Why do you think that?What happened in the story?What might this mean?Through whose eyes is the story told? How do you know this?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Which part of the story best describes the setting?What words and/or phrases do this?What part of the story do you like best?Where does the story take place?
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After reading...

Ask...

<ul style="list-style-type: none">When did the story take place?What did s/he/it look like?Who was s/he/it?Where did s/he/it live?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Who are the characters in the book?Where in the book would you find....?Summarise the story so far.
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Further Learning

- Geography - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zsw4kty/articles/zdggm39>
- History - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zq87xnb>

Our PE days are:

- Cardiff: Wednesday & Friday
- Derry: Tuesday & Wednesday
- Dundee: Wednesday & Friday

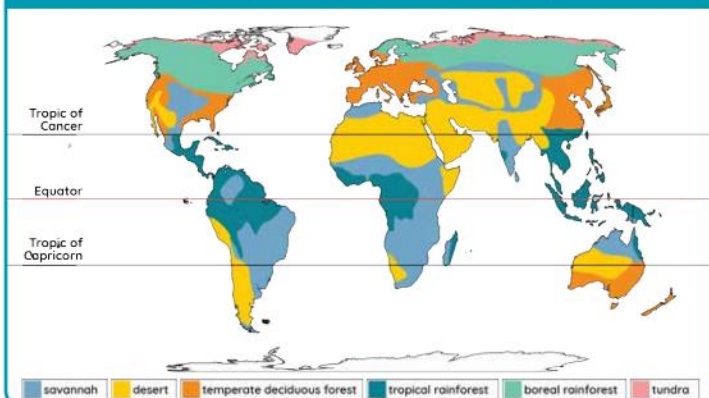
Please ensure your child wears warm PE clothing as we enter the colder winter months, including jogging bottoms for outside PE. They must have a named coat in too. Your child will also need the following stationary in school:

- Handwriting Pen (the Berol handwriting pens are what we use in school)
- Pencil
- Purple Biro Pen
- Glue Stick (please no scented or coloured ones and they are child safe)
- Sharpener (preferable with a bottom cup to it)
- Rubber
- A highlighter
- Whiteboard pen

Thank you for your support with your child's learning!

Would you like to live in the desert?

Where are hot desert biomes located?



A hot desert biome is hot, dry and arid, although temperatures can drop at night and occasional heavy downpours can occur.

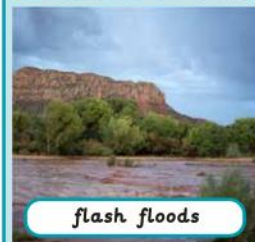
Threats and dangers:



drought



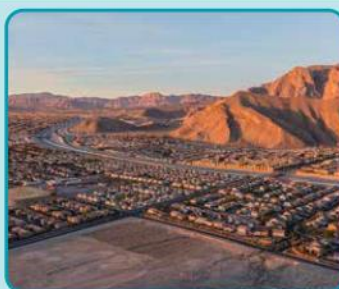
desertification



flash floods

How do people use the Mojave Desert?

- Protecting areas of natural beauty in national parks.
- Recreational purposes like hiking or quad biking.
- Ranching and farming.
- Military bases and training.
- Mining precious resources.
- Generating renewable energy.
- Living in settlements.



Would you like to live in the desert?

arid	Too little rain to support lots of vegetation.
barren	Land that cannot grow vegetation.
biome	An area of the world with a similar climate and landscape, where similar plants and animals live.
climate	Long-term weather conditions in a specific region.
desert	Any stretch of land with little to no rainfall and extremely sparse vegetation and wildlife.
mining	Digging underground for precious metals and stones.
rainfall	The amount of rain falling in a place over a particular time.
ranching	Keeping animals on a large farm, particularly in the Americas.
renewable energy	Energy generated from a continuous source, such as wind or water.

Physical features in the Mojave Desert:



sand dune



natural arch



mushroom rock



mesa



salt flat

What did the ancient Egyptians believe?

Book of the Dead	A long sheet of papyrus containing a series of written spells which guided the dead to the afterlife.
civilisation	A large group of people with a common language, way of life and governance.
historically significant	A person or event that deserves attention.
immortal	Able to live forever.
mummification	The Egyptian process of preserving a body, so it could travel to the afterlife.
preserve	To prevent a body from decaying.
pyramid	Named after its shape, a large stone tomb built for a pharaoh.
Ra	The ancient Egyptian sun god, who later merged with Atum, the creator god.
River Nile	The longest river in the world, along which the ancient Egyptian civilisation developed.
sarcophagus	A decorated stone coffin, used in ancient Egypt.

The afterlife



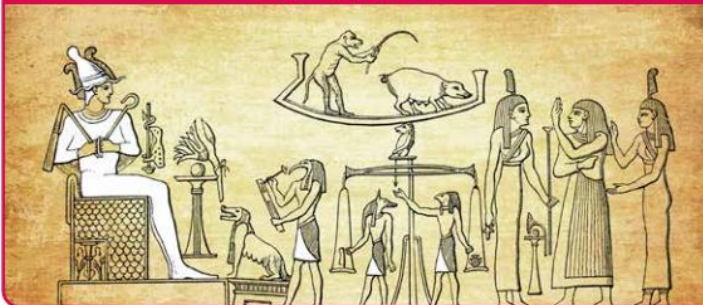
The Egyptians believed that after a person died, they travelled to the afterlife - a kind of paradise or heaven in which people became immortal. The journey to the afterlife was full of challenges, and at its end, the god Osiris decided whether a person would go to the afterlife or the underworld.

Gods and goddesses

The ancient Egyptians worshipped over 1,500 gods and goddesses, responsible for all aspects of daily Egyptian life. For example, Thoth was the god of writing. Temples were built for the gods, and festivals were dedicated in their honour.



Weighing of the heart ceremony



The ancient Egyptians thought the heart recorded all the good and bad things a person did. If the heart weighed the same as the Feather of Ma'at, the person went to the afterlife.

What did the ancient Egyptians believe?

Timeline

