



News from the Teacher

I would like to wish you all a happy new year and a warm welcome back to Turvey Primary School. I hope you had a lovely Christmas and are ready to get back to a routine! **Reminder:** All planners must be signed by a parent/carer once a week and need to be in school every day, especially Mondays for a teacher's signature.

If you would like more detailed information about what we teach please refer to the school website. You will find curriculum maps on the class page and a detailed progression of skills document under the 'curriculum' tab for each subject.

Curriculum pages: <https://www.turveyprimary.co.uk/page/?title=Curriculum&pid=25>

Class Pages: <https://www.turveyprimary.co.uk/page/?title=Classes&pid=9>

English

At the start of the term, the children will be looking at our class book – Skellig by David Almond. The story is about a young boy named Michael and his family who move to an ancient and crumbling new house. He encounters a mysterious creature named Skellig. Slowly they come to trust and care for each other through the most difficult phase of their lives. The children will have the opportunity to use a range of devices to build cohesion within and across paragraphs and integrate dialogue to convey and advance the action. As well as fictional work, the children will also have access to non-fiction and poetry elements. Comprehension activities and spelling, punctuation and grammar sessions are taught frequently allowing the children to practice their skills in order to correctly use them in their English work.

Maths

In Maths, year 5&6 will recap fractions, progressing on to decimals and percentages. Children will continue to develop their knowledge on decimals and will apply this when adding and subtracting. Throughout the term, the children will be looking at measurement, converting units and ratio problems. As well as this, we will also be looking at statistics, including understanding parts of circles, radius, diameter and circumference. Year 6 will continue to complete mental maths tests each week, whilst Year 5 will complete one at the end of each half term going forward. Times tables are vital at this stage of their learning. If you can encourage the children to continue to practice their times tables and any arithmetic calculations, it would be appreciated!

Topic

This term, our topic focus is the Egyptians, where we will gain an insight into arranging events from Ancient Egypt in chronological order, the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb and an opportunity to read, write and decode Hieroglyphic messages. As well as this, we will explore the social structure of ancient Egyptian societies and investigate the role, rights and responsibilities of the pharaohs. After half term, the children will be studying geographical features of Egypt, describing and understanding key aspects of Human and Physical geography, such as the climate and rivers.

Important Dates

Monday - Planners checked, PE

Wednesday – Homework due in

Friday – Homework set, PE

Science

During this term, children will be exploring 'Light' and will use the idea that light travels in straight lines and that objects are seen because they give out or reflect light into the eye. After half term, we will be looking at Electricity, recognising the symbols used when representing a simple circuit in a diagram. We will also compare and give reasons for variations in how components function, including the brightness of bulbs, the loudness of buzzers and the on/off position of switches.

Computing, RE and PSHCE

We will be exploring digital citizenship and how their online actions can impact their reputation both now and in the future in our computing lessons.

In RE, will start the year learning about Judaism and we will explore the main ways that being Jewish can make a difference to people's lives in Britain today. In Spring 2, the focus will be on Sikhism, examining how Sikhs put the teachings and ideas of the Gurus into action in their everyday lives.

In PSHCE lessons, we will be focusing on 'Keeping Safe' learning about important topics such as vaping, drugs, online safety and bullying, helping them to make informed and responsible choices. After half term we will move on to a 'Rights and Respect' topic, as we learn how to respect the world and the people around them.

Art and DT

This term, Y5/6 will be focusing on one Art project and one DT project. Linked to Ancient Egyptians we will be creating a death mask. For Design and Technology, we will be designing, preparing and evaluating a Shaduf using a wide range of tools and resources.

Physical Education

Children will take part in regular lessons of PE on Monday and Fridays. We will be focusing on learning and enhancing our skills in Dance and Fitness followed by Outdoor Adventure Activities and Basketball after half term. Children must wear their **full black** PE kit on Mondays and Fridays and have a full water bottle in school.

Watch out for:

'How to Help Your Child Succeed at School' evening – Monday 12th January, 7.30 – 9.00 pm, School Hall
Zebras Cake Sale – Tuesday 20th January, after school
Culture Day (USA) – Tuesday 27th January