



Middle Fell- Autumn- 2nd Half-Term- Learning Overview

Literacy

This half-term we will be planning/publishing riddle poems and non-fictional research pieces. We will be extending our comprehension skills by delving further into *“Stitch Head”* by Guy Bass. We will engage with the CLPE programme by reading and discussing *“Marcy and The Riddle of The Sphinx”* by Joe Todd-Stanton. This unit involves: annotating images, making informed inferences, considering realistic predictions, orally retelling stories, experimenting with ‘hot seating’ / ‘freeze framing’, writing to persuade, expanding our range of vocabulary, generating story maps and unpicking the hidden moral lessons from stories. Our 4 key goals remain for us to: increase our **handwriting stamina**, extend our **reading comprehension skills**, improve our **spelling accuracy** and develop our **independent writing**.

SPAG

We will continue to develop our key SPAG terminology/concepts, applying each element to our writing by:

- Identifying and applying the appropriate pronouns as needed in our writing.
- Developing our range and quality of purposeful conjunctions and adjectives.
- Making effective use of a range of conjunctions and determiners.
- Applying a variety of fronted adverbials to improve our independent writing.
- Consolidating our use of: full stops, capital letters, exclamation marks, question marks, using commas for lists, apostrophes to indicate missing letters, inverted commas for direct speech and paragraphs to organise themes/ideas.

Class Books

“Stitch Head”
by Guy Bass

“Marcy and The Riddle of The Sphinx”
by Joe Todd-Stanton

“Hot Like Fire”
by Valerie Bloom

Art/DT

In Art/DT we will be using the lens of our History topic to further explore and experiment with different art styles, materials and skills, including:

- Making our own papyrus paper.
- Investigating hieroglyphics and creating art that incorporates these into its design.
- Researching, designing, making and evaluating authentic Ancient Egyptian recipes.
- Building interactive displays to share knowledge.
- Designing and making rune jewellery from clay.

Computing

We will learn about branching databases by:

- Investigating database mapping based on simple yes/no questions and answers to organise data.
- Selecting attributes to organise items into groups.
- Arranging simple objects into tree structures.
- Testing our own branching databases.
- Creating yes/no questions using given attributes.
- Comparing two branching database structures.
- Independently creating a branching database that adheres to a carefully structured plan.
- Evaluating our identification tools.

Geography / History

This half-term, we will further explore the Ancient Egyptians but will also extend our investigation by considering modern Egypt too. We will: explore some of the Ancient Egyptian gods and understand how the afterlife was viewed; consider the role of Hieroglyphics and use these to send a message; investigate the diets of Ancient Egyptians and compare these to modern diets; research the key geographical features of modern Egypt; research the wildlife present in modern Egypt; and reflect on the impact of modern Egyptian tourism.

Science

In Science, we will be examining ‘*living things*’. We will:

- Categorise animals into groups according to their features.
- Explore and identify the 7 characteristics of living things.
- Use secondary sources to research facts on green plants.
- Observe, collect and draw a range of invertebrate creatures from the local environment and group these.
- Develop classification keys for living things.
- Determine features of vertebrates (fish and amphibians).
- Set up fair tests to investigate how mammals have adapted to meet the needs of their natural environments.

Numeracy

This half term, our class will be covering most of the same units, but at different levels to better support all pupils. The topics we will cover this half-term are: **1) Addition & Subtraction, 2) Multiplication & Division, and 3) Area (Y4 only)**. This half-term will conclude with a series of summative assessments to ensure all pupils are performing at the expected level and to further highlight any gaps in pupils’ understanding.

Music Miss Horn will use Charanga alongside her bespoke lessons to prepare for our Christmas play.

PE Mr Holmes will continue to run these sessions, focussing on Team Game and Dance.

RE We will be exploring Christianity in terms of incarnation and the significance of the nativity.

PSHE We will be celebrating our differences by considering the impacts of assumptions & bullying.

MFL We will be learning about French no.’s to 20, masculine/feminine nouns and playground games.



Middle Fell- Homework- Autumn 2

<u>Amazing Art</u>  Can you create a piece of art inspired by Ancient Egyptians gods or the Egyptian afterlife?	<u>Purposeful Writing</u>  Can you write a persuasive letter to our school council asking them to make a change that you want to see?	<u>Super Spelling</u>  Can you find the most creative way to practice your spellings and send a picture on DoJo for the class to see?
<u>Terrific Times Tables</u>  Can you make your heat map 'green' for 2 times tables that are currently yellow, orange or red? <i>Remember: Getting answers right slowly is far better than getting questions wrong quickly!</i>	<u>Skilful Scientists</u>  Can you explore the living plants, insects and animals near your home and group these however you wish? <i>Don't be afraid to get messy!</i>	<u>Choose a Chapter</u>  Can you pick a chapter from one of our class stories or a book you're reading at home and write a short review about what you thought of it?
<u>Creative Computing</u>  Can you make a poster about how to stay safe online and why this is so important for people your age or younger?	<u>Research Specialist</u>  Can you create a poster about the positives and negatives surrounding tourism in our local area?	<u>Exciting Egyptians</u>  Can you use Hieroglyphics to write a message about your life now to share with future archaeologists?

The best way to support your child's learning is by committing **at least 10 minutes each night to listening to them read** or having them read to a family member, friend or themselves. Please remind your child to follow with their finger while reading, taking care to articulate each word clearly and accurately. Asking questions about the story and character feelings is also helpful to develop key comprehension skills. Reading records are checked regularly, so please keep these up to date with adult signatures where possible.

10 minutes of daily spelling practice plus any times tables practice also bolsters your child's progress. These can be supported in fun and engaging ways via Spelling Shed and Times Tables Rockstars, for which all pupils have login details on their reading records.

A short Maths task is assigned each Friday to further support your child's learning.

Thank you for your continued support!

If you have any questions or concerns, please drop me a message via the Class Dojo or via email at jwatters@alston.cumbria.sch.uk