



SHENFIELD ST MARY'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

HALL LANE SHENFIELD BRENTWOOD CM15 9AL
(A member of the Mid Essex Anglican Academy Trust)

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! It is truly wonderful to have the children back in school. The classrooms are full of children's voices and the school seems to be alive once again! The children have come in with many stories of their summer holidays and it sounds like they had fun.

This term our topic is entitled Exciting Egyptians. The children have already wrapped each other in reams of tissue to replicate mummies as part of their Stunning Starter. Make sure you check the class pages for some entertaining photos! Although it is essentially a historical topic, the children will also focus on the geographical location and The River Nile as a means of growing crops and farming. We will also be looking at the process of mummification which links to our science topic of 'Food and Our Bodies.' We will begin by looking at teeth and their anatomy, moving on to look at the importance of a healthy diet.

To use in our art unit this term, please could children bring in a named, plastic 4 pint milk bottle.

Communication

We will continue to use Google Classroom, for homework only. Marvellous Me is an app that we use to send you achievements, individual successes and green cards. Any further communication and updates will be sent to you via email.

Homework

Children will be sent home with a CGP book for Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar. We will indicate the pages for children to complete at home on Google Classroom. Please mark these with your child prior to submitting it on Google Classroom (answers can be found at the back of the book). The children will also be set tasks for Maths and a project. Spellings for the term are all on one document, featuring the spelling test date, spelling focus and the vocabulary to practise at home. Homework will be sent on Thursday and we will need you to send it back to us by the following Wednesday.

Your child will be sent home with a yellow reading diary. We would ask that your child reads to an adult for a minimum of ten minutes a day and that you sign the diary once you have heard them read. Although the children are keen to impress and read by themselves, they also need to practise answering questions about what they have read and discuss this thoroughly. This task cannot be managed by the children alone. Try to encourage your child to read aloud as much as possible to improve their expression and fluency. Additionally, the children will continue to develop their times table knowledge this year. At present, the children should know their x2, x5 and x10 times tables and in this term, children will be taught x3 and x4 tables (multiplication and division facts). We will set the children various times tables to learn each week along with the spellings.

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PE and Forest School

For the first half term Water Vole's indoor PE lessons will be on a Monday and for both classes outdoor PE will be on a Thursday. Otter Class will be participating in Forest School for the first half of the Autumn Term. Otter Class will need to wear appropriate clothing for Forest School on a Tuesday, starting on 19th September. After half term Otter Class will have indoor PE on a Monday and Water Vole will have Forest School on a Tuesday.

Please ensure children do not wear earrings on PE days. We will continue to do the Daily Mile.

Events

Monday 2nd October We are having an Egyptian day as our Marvellous Middle. We have organised a workshop to help us have a greater understanding of life in Ancient Egypt. This is a dress up day therefore all children will need to wear an Egyptian costume to school. More details and ideas will be given to you nearer the time.

Also, this term we will be celebrating Harvest on Thursday 28th September and Sunday 1st October with our school community and supporting Year 4 with singing in the Christmas production.

We look forward to meeting you in person at our Meet the Teacher evening on Wednesday 27th September. If you wish to discuss anything with your child's class teacher, you are welcome to talk to us on the playground after school.

Some additional dates for your diaries for the Autumn term:

Friday 13th October – A House day morning will take place on Friday 13th October. We ask that children wear either blue, green, yellow or red. Children may wish to dress in their house colours or select a different colour for the day. More details will follow when the theme is finalised.

Friday 1st December – Christmas special House Day

Thursday 7th December - Year 3 & 4 Christmas production (2 performances)

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards,

Mrs Chudley, Mrs Gurney and Mrs Mooney