Y6F - Autumn Half Term (September to October 2018)

We have enjoyed new challenges in Year 6 so far this term and have worked hard on improving our presentation and handwriting.

**English:**

We are reading a new adventure story as part of our English lessons: The Secrets of a Sun King! We have discovered some unusual ancient artefacts and have written some detailed descriptions about our Egyptian canopic jars. To do this, we have been practising using dictionaries and thesauruses to improve our words choices and to allow us to use more precise adjectives. We have recapped common and proper nouns and have used this knowledge to create expanded noun phrases to use in extended sentences. We have improved our work further by looking at how we can vary our sentence openers using a variety of fronted adverbials. These were tricky but we stuck with it! We are continuing to edit and improve our work either independently, with a partner or with an adult and hope to continue to do so next term!

**Maths:**

In maths, we have been focusing on ‘Number and Place Value,’ ‘Addition and Subtraction’ and ‘Multiplication and Division.’ We now understand the importance of using place value headings wherever possible and are practising using them to help us every day. We are continually checking our work for any mistakes and are asking for help when we need it. We found multiplication a little confusing at times (especially long multiplication) but we are now feeling more confident after re-visiting it. We are finding it challenging at times but are making sure we check our working out to find our own errors.

**Science:**

We have looked at light this half term and have first tested our prior knowledge. When we discussed the topic, we realised that whilst we did know some things about light, we were unsure how it helped us see. With the help of some wool to demonstrate the light’s path, we now understand that light travels in straight lines from the source, it bounces off the object and into our eyes! Interesting stuff! We look forward to learning more about light and about how it can be linked with our next topic - ‘Electricity’ - after half term.

**PE:**

We have been very active this half term and have enjoyed coaching sessions from Miss Fox from High Tunstall School. She has been teaching us all about Sports Hall Athletics and has really put us through our paces! We have learnt all about how to use our bodies to help us to run faster, how to throw a javelin correctly and safely, how to perform long jump and many more activities. It is all in preparation for the Sports Hall Athletics competition next half term. I wonder who will be chosen to represent the school this time.

We have also been practising our dodgeball skills as part of our other weekly PE lesson. We have learnt about the rules and discussed team work and safety. As a result, this is one of our favourite sports so far!

**History and geography:**

The Ancient Egyptians have been the focus of our history topic this half term. We have used our atlas skills to locate Egypt on a world map and have looked at the other countries around it. We have looked at different aspects of Egyptian life and have used ICT to research and answer some of the questions we had about this ancient civilisation. Using a timeline, we have visited other periods throughout history and have enjoyed some mini research sessions about famous people throughout history, such as King Henry VIII and his many wives! We look forward to continuing our studies next half term.

**Art:**

We have explored the life and works of the famous Swiss sculptor, Alberto Giacometti. Analysing his various works of art, such as ‘pointing man’ and ‘walking man,’ we were able to discuss the techniques he used when creating his sculptures and the inspiration behind them. With the information we had gathered, we were able to write a biography for Giacometti and carefully copied an example of his work. We noticed the similarities between his angular figures and those of Ancient Egyptian wall paintings. We then went on to use these findings as inspiration for our own work and drew the outline of one of his sculptures before combining it with Ancient Egyptian features. This was a great way to bring both topics together and we coloured them using pencil.

**PSHE/RE:**

We have looked at friendship and tolerance this half term in PSHE. We have discussed what it means to be a good friend and how we can be kind to others. We have also looked at celebrations and rituals in different religions and have talked about the different beliefs that children have in our class.