



Dear Parents of Year 3/4 children

Ancient Egyptian Day

As you will hopefully already know, our new learning challenge is focused on learning about the Ancient Egyptians and in particular their daily life .

On **Friday 6th March** "History Off The Page" will be visiting us and organising an Ancient Egyptian Day. This day involves role play and practical activities, and will take place in the school hall. This curricular activity will be taking the place of a school trip and as you will see the day will involve a lot of 'hands on' activities for the children who will also dress up for the day as Egyptians. Ideas of costumes can be found attached to this letter

Setting:

The ancient Egyptians believed that they had to take everything with them to their afterlife, so all the objects they needed were placed in their tombs (Precious Habitations) or painted on the walls, and it is because of this that we know so much about their lifestyle. The tombs of Pharaohs took years of preparation and were planned and designed during the lifetime of the person in question. Death provided a constant market for tomb furnishings. The setting for our Egyptian Day is Tel-el-Amana, which was then known as the Horizon of the New Kingdom of the Aten, during 14th century B.C. The Pharaoh at the time is Akhenaten and his wife is Nefertiti who left Thebes to set up a new city to worship the Sun God, the Aten. The banquet takes place in the Royal Court in the month of October to celebrate the appointment of a new High Priest of Aten.

After an introduction, the children will be involved in practical workshops. These involve activities such as using traditional perfumes and ingredients to create authentic embalming ointments; oil lamps, making pots, carving shabtis, bread making, Painting an Egyptian style fresco and Amulet making. Afternoon events focus on Egyptian Royal Court and involves dancing and the preparation and serving of a banquet.

We are asking for a voluntary contribution of £10 to cover the cost of the event (including materials and food) to be paid by **Monday 3rd February**.

It is sure to be an exciting day and we all look forward to experiencing life as an Ancient Egyptian. If you would like to be a parent helper on this day, then please complete the slip below. We do need all the help we can get and look forward to seeing you involved in this activity.

Yours sincerely

Wendy Lee

Mrs Lee

On behalf of the Yr3/4 Team

Yr3/4 Ancient Egyptian Day – Friday 6th March

Name of Child:

Class:

I would like to be a parent helper on the Ancient Egyptian Day



Preparing the pupils – Boys' Egyptian Costume:

Names

Please ask the pupils to select a name from the list below and if possible write it on a label, which can be attached to their costume.

Ahmose, Anedjab, Cheprew, Djary, Harkhuf, Hetepy, Imhotep, Ineri, Khafra, Khasekem, Manethes, Menes, Menkaura, Mycerinus, Rekhmir, Rhaotep, Senenmet, Sreferu, Tuthmosis, Unas, Userbet

Costume

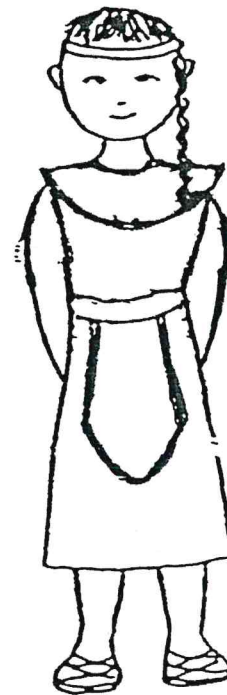
It is not practical to copy the clothing style of the period exactly, mainly because it would be far too cold. Boys would have worn only a linen shenti (loincloth.) For this reason we suggest warmer, simple plain white garments.

Pretending to be a particular character from history or mythology is inappropriate and does not help the day in any way.

Boys can wear a plain white T shirt and white shorts, or a shorter version of the shift shown, with a belt, cord or sash round the waist. Do not worry unduly about style - the main impression should be one of whiteness. Sandals make suitable footwear.

A simple fillet or circlet of cord or braid could also be worn by boys (high on the forehead and tied at the back of the head)

Boys wore the youth lock until they were adolescent - a thick plait of hair left growing on the side of the otherwise shaven head. This can be made by plaiting several strands of wool together. Attach the plait to a hair clip, so it can be securely fixed to the pupil's hair or to the circlet.



Preparing the pupils – Girls Egyptian Costume

Names

Please ask the pupils to select a name from the list below and if possible write it on a label which can be attached to their costume.

Hathor, Hatshepsut, Henuttaneb, Hetephares, Iput, Isis, Maat, Nebetiah, Nefatura, Nefertari, Neferure, Nefet, Nekhbet, Nephthys, Satamun, Sheri, Tefnut, Teti, Tiye, Tuyu, Wadjet.

Costume

It is not practical to copy the clothing style of the period exactly, mainly because it would be far too cold. For this reason we suggest warmer simple plain white cotton garments.

Pretending to be a particular character from history or mythology is inappropriate and does not help the day in any way.

Girls can wear a long white cotton shift, as illustrated, perhaps made from an old sheet. (If very cold please add a cloak or anything practical - being warm enough to learn is more important than looking perfectly authentic!) Sandals make suitable footwear.

Hair and makeup

For a headdress, a circlet or fillet of cord or braid could be worn (high on the forehead and tied at the back).

Girls wore their hair in lots of small plaits or cut to a 'bobbed' length. Ancient Egyptians had very black hair. They also wore black eye paint along the eyelids to protect them from the sun.

We do not recommend this - it can look authentic but it can also get very smeared during the day, and some children may be allergic or develop skin irritation.

