



February 2026

Dear Families,

Welcome to Term 4 in Heron Class. We have already had a great start to our term and I am sure you have all heard about our skillful dicing, chopping and grating as we completed the finale of our Food Tech unit to create a brilliant vegan bolognese. It was yummy and most of us went in for seconds. Well done Herons- you are great chefs!

This term, I have chosen a short animation, The Alchemist's Letter, to inspire our English writing. It is a beautiful film and I am hoping this is going to spark our imaginations to write some great descriptions of the setting within the clip, using figurative language. For our non narrative unit, we will be composing informal letters, analysing the different viewpoints of the characters seen within the film and then towards the end of the term we will create Haiku poems.

We have a History focus this term looking at Ancient civilisations. Our historical line of enquiry will be, 'What were some of the most significant achievements of Ancient Egyptians?' We will continue our work on being great Archeologists and look at artefacts that we have discovered, using historical evidence to draw conclusions to answer this historical enquiry. We will also be looking at timelines to see where Ancient Egypt was within history.

P.E

This term, P.E lessons will continue to take place on **Monday** and **Wednesday** afternoons. As usual, children need to come into school on these days in full PE Kit (dark green round-necked t-shirt with school logo (available from www.myclothing.com) black shorts, black trainers, black jogging top (zip-up) and bottoms (for outside games). It is especially important that they bring **refillable** water bottles. We will be working on keeping fit and football skills on these days so they will get very thirsty!

Sports Coaching-

We will be continuing with our whole day enhanced coaching this term as part of our 'supercurricular offer' - provision that surpasses National Curriculum requirements. Herons' day will be confirmed nearer the time.

Breaktimes outside

Children will need to bring a waterproof coat everyday as the British weather is unpredictable . They need to continue to bring a water bottle and a whole-fruit snack to school every day as well, as they get hungry and thirsty by breaktime! You may like to buy them a snack card, available through Parentpay.

How you can help at home this term:

At South Moreton we do not set large pieces of homework, as educational research proves that this is of little value in Primary School, and our parents have supported this. **However, we do expect children to read daily, as this is the single most effective way to build academic success.** Reading at home is crucial for Herons to build the vocabulary, imagination and understanding they will need for their writing and other academic learning.

We have a weekly whole-school competition to reward 'Reading Nights', and ask that children read for 20 minutes per night Monday - Thursday, recording progress in their reading diary. Below are some question prompts to support you to read with your child and enjoy conversations with them about what they have read.

[KS2 Reading VIPERS](#)

Bring a reading book in every day- We read at every opportunity so it is important that they have one to pick up straight away when asked to.

Spellings: Children will be given their new spellings **every Wednesday this term.** The children will stick these into their new reading diaries so you will know what words they are practising. Please encourage your child to practise these (these spellings are also on the SPaG slides on Heron's Google Classroom-the children know their login details). They will write their spelling test scores on their spelling sheets for you to see in their reading diaries.

Children will then be tested in school every Wednesday afternoon to see what they have remembered.

Times Tables:

It is so important that your child is practising their times tables daily at home, and Year 4 pupils will be tested on these within the Government's Multiplication Check in the Summer Term. In class, children will have a times table **test every Wednesday afternoon**. Children need to be fluent with all their times tables as this helps support most of their maths work completed in lessons. To be fluent means to be able to confidently recall times tables facts within 3 seconds.

The mathsframe website is great to help practise times tables independently, so please encourage your child to do a little bit each day. It will help greatly with their confidence and fluency.

<https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/477/Multiplication-Tables-Check>

This is also another great resource the children can use:

https://talkingtimestables.uk/y4_ks2_mtc_practice_tests_multiplication_tables_check.php

Enrichment activities for this term based on our History unit about Ancient Egyptians

(Optional but I would love you to try these at home and then share with the class! DOJO rewards)

Make Egyptian Flatbread (Aish Baladi) - Cooking

Try baking a simple version of Egyptian flatbread, similar to what ancient Egyptians ate. And bring some in for Herons to taste!

Create a Cartouche with Hieroglyphics - Art Activity

A cartouche is an oval shape used to write a pharaoh's name. Draw or print an oval cartouche. Use a hieroglyphic alphabet to write their name. Decorate with gold, red and blue (Egyptian colours)

Write a Diary Entry as an Egyptian Child - Writing Activity

Children imagine they are living in Ancient Egypt. Write a diary entry describing a day in their life. Include farming, school, clothing, food or helping build a monument

Visit the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford - Local Exploration

The Ashmolean has an excellent Ancient Egypt collection. Look for mummies, amulets, statues and hieroglyphics. Sketch one artefact. Write three facts they learned

Please don't hesitate to get in contact with me if you have any questions.

Warm wishes

Mrs Salmon