

We will be closely linking all of our English this half to our Curriculum topic on the Ancient Egyptians. We will begin by exploring the process of mummification and how the Ancient Egyptians treated their dead. We will write informative and explanation texts about this topic. We then explore Howard Carter's discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb. We revisit the features of diary writing before writing from the point of view of Mr Carter documenting his discoveries. We will finish off the term by using the book Egyptology to inspire our writing story writing.

Science: We will be exploring the topic 'Animals, including humans'. We will begin our topic by learning about food, nutrition, balanced diets and how we digest food and extract nutrients from what we eat. We will then move onto learning about the muscular skeletal systems of animals and humans, making comparisons between them. We will also draw links to our RHSE topic and explore how our bodies grow and change as we get older.

Art and DT: We will be exploring how the Ancient Egyptians could have irrigated and efficiently extracted water from the River Nile to help with farming and other needs. We'll learn about different types of 'levers and linkages' and consider how these could be incorporated with their designs. We will make prototypes of their designs and evaluate how successful they think they would be. In Art, we will study Egyptian hieroglyphs and create our own painting our own encoded message.

Geography: We will explore where the Ancient Egyptian civilisation was located on a global and local scale. Using atlases and variety of maps, we will learn to use grid references and compass bearings to locate specific points on a map. We will also write geographical descriptions using vocabulary such as the equator, hemispheres, lines and continents.

## Who were the Ancient Egyptians?

Computing: We will learn about algorithms and sequences of code. We will learn how to translate these sequences into Scratch in order to achieve a desired outcome. Where this outcome is not what we'd hoped, we will attempt to de-bug our code.

History: Egyptology: Search for the tomb of Tutankhamun in the Valley of the Kings.

Physical Education: This half term, our topic will be focussed around 'fitness and health'. We will learn about the importance of warm ups and cool downs as well as why we breathe more heavily when exercising. We will continue to take part in a variety of games that will help improve our speed, agility, coordination and balance too. It is also our **Sports day on the 15<sup>th</sup> June!**



and RHSE: This half term we will be learning about Relationships, Personal Safety and Sex Education. Our main focus will be on the formation of healthy relationships both in person and online. We will also discuss online safety and what to do if you're concerned about someone's behaviour and conduct online. We will also discuss the importance of identifying trusted adults with whom we can speak to about any problems we might have. Finally, we will begin to explore the importance of personal space and boundaries and inappropriate touch.

French: We will take part in a variety of games, discussions, role play activities and songs to learn key vocabulary and to begin to develop some basic conversational language skills. We will learn about numbers, colours, foods and sports. A number of classes will also be hosting Swiss student teachers and will therefore learn some Swiss German!

Over the next 7 weeks, we will be learning about the history of the Ancient Egyptians. We will begin by developing an understanding of when the Egyptian civilisation existed relative to other significant global historical events. We will use timelines to record this information in a clear and easy to understand format. We will also learn about key events and rulers within the Egyptian civilisation.

We will begin our half term by learning about fractions and decimals. We will start with 'linked fractions' such as halves and quarters, tenths and fifths and then move on to sixths before examining how fractions relate to decimal numbers. We will then look at formal calculation methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division so as to enable us to explore more complex reasoning and problem solving activities. We will use this half term as a further opportunity to identify and address any misconceptions and gaps in our knowledge linked to the current curriculum and home learning period.

Schools of Sanctuary: Emphasis will be placed on Ancient Egyptian and African civilisation that predates (and was hugely influential in the) development of Ancient Greece. We will also be celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Balfour Declaration as part of our ongoing Schools of Sanctuary work.

#### Optional Activities:

Although we don't set any formal homework at Avenue Junior School we do encourage children to read for a minimum of 10 minutes each day. Reading is a skill that underpins all aspects of your children's learning and regular practise of this skill is vital to ensure they are successful learners. Reading can take a variety of different forms: you reading to your children, your children reading to you, a mixture of both, independent reading, reading online using the Rising Stars online library and comprehension questions.

Times tables are also another great thing to work on at home! By the end of the half term children are expected to quickly recall their times tables facts up to 12x12. This is something that takes a considerable amount of practise. The 2x, 5x and 10x tables are a good initial focus, before moving onto the others. There are many ways to practise learning timetables – little and often is the key however!

Our topic this half term is on the Ancient Egyptians. We have always found this a topic that inspires the children and really captures their imaginations. We encourage children when they go home and take the lead on some independent work or research that has been kick started by something they've been doing at school.

Perhaps your children could conduct some research on a famous Egyptian pharaoh, their accomplishments and present this as part of a poster or PowerPoint. They could also create some clay jewellery or pottery inspired by some of the amazing archaeological finds that have come out of the temples, tombs and sands of Egypt...

There are some really fun activities where you can mummify your own 'fresh' vegetables – oranges and tomatoes work really well. There are lots of different recipes available with instructions on how to do this!