



Class Oak Newsletter Spring 1st Half Term

Dear Parents,

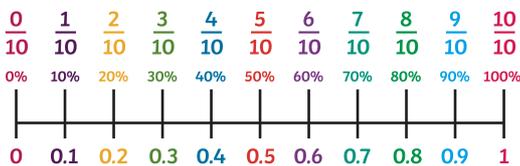
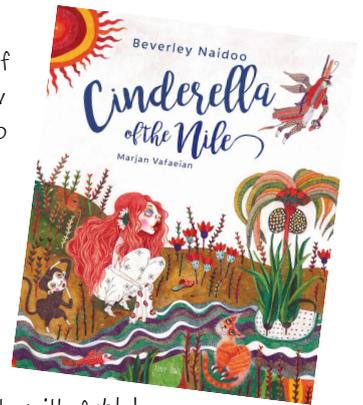
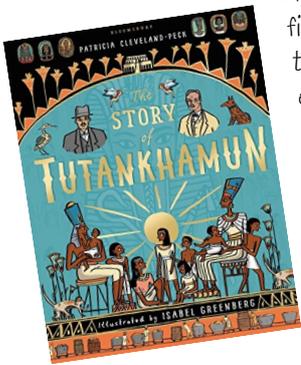
Happy New Year! I hope you had a brilliant Christmas break. We've got a fun-filled, action-packed 5 ½ week half term with lots of amazing learning opportunities, all focussed on our learning question:

What can we learn from the Ancient Egyptians?

Through the half term, we will explore what life was like during Ancient Egyptian times, delve into the lives of Pharaohs, think about the burial practices and pyramids of the past and consider what they thought about the afterlife.

English

We have two fantastic texts with an Ancient Egyptian focus to use during our English lessons. The Story of Tutankhamun, by Patricia Cleveland-Peck, will be our first text. We will begin by exploring the history of Tutankhamun and writing reports about Ancient Egypt before going on to find out about Howard Carter and exploring the stories and legends about the curse of Tutankhamun's tomb. The main text we will write is a biography of Tutankhamun. Our second text will be Cinderella of the Nile. We will develop our inference skills before exploring the author's use of literary language and the effect that this has on the reader. Once the story has been read, the children will sort statements about traditional Cinderella tales and statements about this version onto a Venn diagram and then go on to devise their own version of a Cinderella story, complete with fable!



Maths

Our maths work this half term will focus on decimals and percentages. We will make links with our learning on fractions as

they are all concepts that can be converted between themselves. We'll also build on our work on place value too, working with numbers up to three decimal places.

Science

We will be thinking about life in light. We will learn about the concept of light travelling in straight lines. We will look at beams of light and how light travels to enable children to understand how we see things. This understanding will then be applied to the production of shadows and we'll look at how light is reflected. We'll then take our learning into the realm of coloured light and rainbows, using scientific skills to raise and answer questions.

Other things to note:

- 14/1/21 - British Museum Virtual Ancient Egyptian Interactive Workshop
- 21/1/21 - Ancient Egypt Live Lesson with Tullie House
- 10/2/21 - Ancient Egypt Week - educational visit for the day - letter to follow

If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

James Webb and Sarah Smith

Stonerise Sticky Knowledge

During this topic can you:

- Talk about the time period that the Ancient Egyptians lived during
- Talk about a famous pharaoh
- Know about the importance of the River Nile to Ancient Egyptians
- Discuss details about Ancient Egyptian religion and burial practices

Vital Vocabulary

Words you will learn during this topic:

The Ancient Egyptians were a civilization that settled near the River Nile in Egypt, Africa. They lived from 3100 to 30bc.

Egypt: About 10% of Egypt is covered by desert. There are 2 main deserts in Egypt - the Libyan desert and the Nubian desert. However, there are also lots of populated cities and villages, especially near the River Nile.

The River Nile: Many people lived near to the River Nile. This was because of many reasons:

- It provided food and water
- It was the quickest way to travel
- Crops grew well in the richest rich ground

Pyramids: Pyramids were built for Pharaohs (the ruler) to be buried in when they died. Ancient Egyptians were buried with their belongings and the tomb walls were painted with scenes from the dead person's life. By covering the objects (artefacts) and paintings in the tombs, we have been able to understand a lot more about life in Ancient Egypt.

Gods and Goddesses: The Ancient Egyptians used to have many different Gods and Goddesses that they would pray to when they needed to. This is because they believed that the God of resurrection, He guided the dead to the next life. Priests, other some made mummies during mummification ceremonies. Anubis was the head of a jackal.

How did Ancient Egyptians write? The Ancient Egyptians didn't use the same alphabet that we use today. They had their own called 'hieroglyphs' (symbols) or 'hieroglyphs' (symbols).

Mummification: Many people in Ancient Egypt chose to be mummified when they died. They did this because they believed that they had to preserve their bodies to use in the afterlife. It took about 70 days to complete the mummification process.

1. The body was washed and perfumed.
2. Organs were removed. Only the heart remained.
3. The body was filled with stuffing.
4. The body was dried out by covering it with a salt substance called natron.
5. After 40 - 50 days the stuffing was removed and replaced with linen or sawdust.
6. The body was wrapped up in strips of linen and covered in a sheet called a shroud.
7. The body was placed in a stone coffin called a sarcophagus.