



# Kedleston Class Newsletter

Spring Term 1 – January 2026

Working together to

*inspire nurture empower*

## Welcome Back & Updates

Happy New Year one and all and hello to 2026! Let's fill this year with lots of laughter and good times, whilst also showing off all your amazing skills! I hope everyone feels well rested after a 2-week break, and that you all had a merry time with the ones you love most. This half term promises to be an exciting one, as we delve into our history topic – Ancient Egypt! Alongside this, of course we will be celebrating Valentines Day in the last week of half term.

Check out **Evidence for Learning** for photos of the fantastic work your children will be doing this half term, and keep an eye on our social media pages, too!

If you have any questions or would like to get in touch, please don't hesitate to contact me on: alex.paul@ivy.set.org (Class Teacher)



## Key Concepts and Skills

Our topic this half term is '**Ancient Egypt**', where we will be travelling back in time and putting on our explorer hats, learning about important aspects of their Egyptian life through varied sensory sessions, where we will explore Egypt by day and by night, exploring different smells, singing songs about mummies and travelling down the river Nile! We will be creating lots of special artwork, including making our own papyrus paper, creating collages of Pharaoh's and making delicious fruit juices, learning about intricate processes! In cognition, we will of course be exploring the sandy landscapes with our hands and feet, excavating historical artefacts whilst working on our fine and gross motor skills, and our switch work will see us activating foot spas filled with sand, so we can really get a feel for how it might have felt as they walked through the desert.

Communication remains at the heart of all we do, and our pupils will have endless opportunities to tell us what they want and need by using TOBIs, symbols, switches and of course, their loud voices!



## Reminders / additional information



If it is appropriate for your child to have snack, please use Arbor to pay for it. We have a range of snack options, including yoghurts, crisps, biscuits and juice.

This half term our hydro day is a **Tuesday morning** and **Wednesday afternoon** but please send in your child's kit at the beginning of the week as we may take them in whenever there is a space. Please include a costume/trunks, 2 towels and some body wash/shampoo. Please remember to send in a change of clothes for your child each day, thank you.



Please send appropriate warm clothing now it's getting much colder.



# Home Learning Curriculum Ideas

## Cognition

Create your very own Egyptian landscape at home and make your own sand!

Simple get a blender and whizz up some digestive biscuits or cheerios in a blender, using a verbal prompt of "ready...steady...", or put the biscuits in a zip lock bag and use a rolling pin to bash them and break them up!

Then you can explore the sand you have made with your hands or feet!



## PSED



In PSHE, we will be learning about 'Families', exploring dance from our family backgrounds.

It is so important to honour where we are from, so take some time to reflect on this at home.

Listen to some music from your country of origin and have a good old dance!



## Physical

Dung beetles were a profoundly sacred symbol representing the sun god Khepri.

Follow any play dough recipe online and add some cocoa powder to make your own 'dung' – eep! Then work on your fine motor skills, rolling the play dough like the beetles rolled the dung!



## Communication



In Ancient Egypt a range of spices were used in cooking, creating for beautiful aromas!

Offer your child different smells – *rose water, cumin, coriander, cardamom, ginger, mint.*

Which do they like, which do they not like, which would they like to smell more of, do they have a favourite?

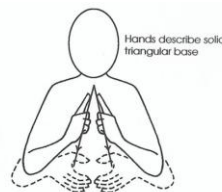
## Reading

We all love a good book or audiobook on YouTube!

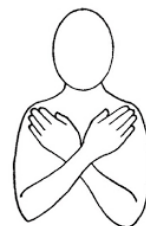
Here are some books you could read together that link to our topic:

- Sailing Down the Nile by Laurie Krebs  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SGmYVNFS3RU>
- The Boy Who Stole the Pharaoh's Lunch – Karen McCombie

## Makaton Signs



**Pyramid**



**Love**