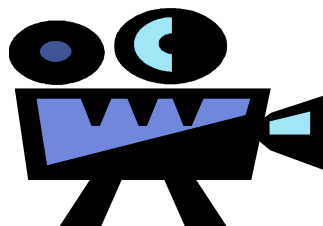


We will be looking at the properties and characteristics of materials this half term. We will be talking about why certain materials are used for certain objects and testing some of the properties to find out which the hardest material is and which substances melt.



This half term we will be looking at myths and linking the work to Egypt. Your child will be asked to retell a story orally based on their reading. You can practise this at home with their school reading book or any other story book. Get your child to read the story or you read the story to them and then get them to retell it to you in their own words.



We will be continuing with our Fiddle lessons starting again on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January. The children are able to pluck the strings and play the fiddle with a bow now and hopefully we will be showing you what we can do very soon.



Don't forget that the children have access to NORTLE which has a huge range of free resources available online - each child has their own login to [www.northumberlandvtle.net](http://www.northumberlandvtle.net). This half term the children will be exploring sound and music in ICT. We'll be recording and changing voices, finding and adding music and sound effects and creating our own music using the computers. At home the children could find and download sound effects from the internet using <http://soundbible.com> or [www.soungle.com](http://www.soungle.com) and then add these to their own work.

In school we'll start to develop mini podcasts combining voice, music and sound effects. The children will also start to edit sound files in 'Audacity' which is free to download at: <http://audacity.sourceforge.net/download/>

Our topic this half term is Ancient Egypt. We will be looking at the Pharaohs and pyramids and linking our literacy work to the Egyptians. If you have any Egyptian artefacts or books then please send them in for us to share with the children. Later in the term we will receive a visit from an Egyptian expert who will work with the children to develop their historical knowledge and skills. More details of this to follow soon. A good website to find out more about Ancient Egyptians is: <http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/Homework/egypt/general.htm>

### HOMEWORK

This will still be given out on Mondays, to be returned the following Monday. PLEASE remember to sign your child's book to show which activities they have completed and which ones they enjoyed.

PE will be on MONDAYS or TUESDAYS this half term.

We will be working on the 2, 5 and 10 times tables this half term as well as doubling and halving numbers to 20. Please practise counting in 2s, 5s and 10s as well as saying the times tables up to 10 times each number. You can help your child to double and half by asking them to share out sweets between 2 or double the amount they have. Look out for homework activities linked to this.

Swimming will start again on FRIDAY 27<sup>th</sup> JANUARY. This is due to the pool's annual maintenance. We will be planning a variety of activities for the children to do on the days there is no swimming, so it would be helpful if your child could keep their PE kit in school for the half term.