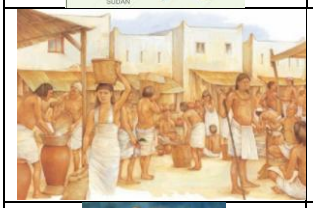
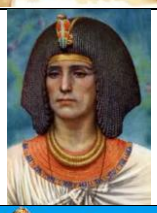
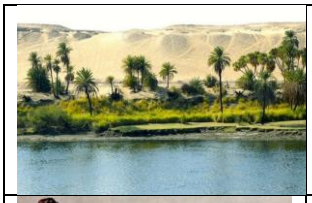
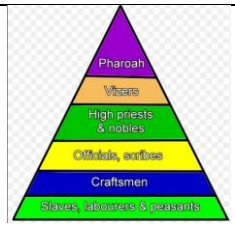
Year 4 Autumn Term

Egypt Vocabulary Guide

	Word	Definition
	Egypt	A country in north-eastern Africa: divided into the Nile Delta (Lower Egypt) and the area from Cairo south to the Sudan (Upper Egypt).
	**Egyptian**	The term for the people of Egypt, or a person of Egyptian descent.
	**pharaoh**	The name for a ruler from ancient Egypt.
	pyramids	Ancient structures, with triangular faces, used as tombs.
	mummification	To make a body into a mummy by embalming and drying.
	sphinx	A winged monster with a woman's head and lion's body.
	canopic jars	A covered urn used by ancient Egyptians to hold organs from an embalmed body.
	hieroglyphics	Ancient Egyptian writing, made up of symbols and pictures.
	irrigation	The supply of water to land or crops to help growth.

	**Nile**	The longest river in the world, located in East Africa and running through Egypt and 10 other African countries.
	plough	A large farming implement with one or more blades, drawn over soil to turn it over ready to plant seeds and crops.
	ancient	Belonging to the past and no longer in existence.
	fertile	In terms of soil or land: able to produce an abundance of vegetation or crops.
	sarcophagus	A stone coffin found in ancient Egypt, typically with an inscription on it.
	papyrus	The ancient Egyptians made a kind of paper from the stalks of a reed called papyrus.
	civilisation	A group of people with their own languages and way of life.
	tomb	A burial chamber for the dead.
	**hierarchical**	A way of organising and ranking people, often displayed as a pyramid with the people considered to be the most important at the top.
	Tutankhamun	Sometimes called King Tut- a famous Pharaoh of Ancient Egypt.