

## Learning Theme: The Maya Civilisation

<b>Literacy</b>	Over the term, we will concentrate on the structure and accuracy of sentences. The beginning of the term will focus on the use of effective language, especially in poetry, with a view to incorporating it into all writing. We will then work on imaginative and descriptive character sketches while continuing to develop our use of complex sentence structures and language play. We will develop our identification of word and sentence types and become more fluent with dictation.
<b>Maths</b>	In Numeracy we will spend plenty of time on mental calculations using different methods using the four operations. This will lead to working on consolidating our understanding of written methods. Solving problems involving money and measure will be tackled using practical and abstract means. We will investigate how numbers change when multiplied by 10 and 100, and practise other methods of multiplication. We will learn the properties of 2D and 3D shapes, and identify and extend patterns involving number and shape. Times tables will be worked on, but will need regular practice at home to consolidate this.
<b>Science</b>	Our science topic is forces. We will become more familiar with pushes and pulls in everyday objects and processes. We will create and carry out our own investigations for friction. We will handle and utilise the power of magnets in different ways. Scientific investigation skills will be extended through the planning and testing of objects and materials through the forces they can demonstrate.
<b>ICT</b>	In Computing we are using PurpleMash to develop our knowledge of Coding. We will be reading and understanding code, writing codes to achieve a particular outcome and 'debugging' to solve any problems we encounter.
<b>Humanities</b>	Our history focus will be the Ancient Maya Civilisation. We will locate significant places on a map and locate various important buildings and structures. We will find out about how they were discovered and the implications of the Spanish invasion. The daily life of citizens will be discussed, incorporating their pastimes, jobs, food and clothing. We will also find out about religious beliefs and the festivals they celebrated. An understanding of how artefacts that survive today tell us about the ancient world will also be discussed and developed.
<b>RE</b>	In RE we are exploring the concept of Faith and what this might mean to different people. We will then consider what different people believe God is like and reflect on how people express their understanding of God through words, symbols and the arts.
<b>PE</b>	Phoenix will have gymnastics and netball. Gym will focus on specific jumps and leaps and different ways of travelling, balancing, and creating sequences of movements. In their games lesson, children will develop their throwing and catching skills, working co-operatively and as part of larger groups, and game tactics.
<b>Music</b>	This unit develops children's ability to sing and play music in two (or more) parts. They explore the effect of two or more pitched notes

	sounding together. They will experiment with clusters of pitched notes and discover different concords and discords.
<b>Art/DT</b>	Art lessons this term will be led by Mr Patel. We will also link some of our drawing skills to our 'Maya Civilisation' topic, creating masks, and pictures of buildings and artefacts.
<b>French</b>	In French our topic will be Je me présente. We will be learning to talk and write about ourselves, our families and our opinions.
<b>PSHE</b>	In PSHE we will be discussing 'Going for Goals', what they are and what the steps to achieving them might be.

### **Home Learning:**

Children are encouraged to be independent learners. Children's own projects and research connected to our learning theme are welcomed and celebrated in class.

A literacy homework task and mental maths books are given out on Fridays to be returned for marking by Tuesday the following week. Athletics and Bug Club activities may also be set. Spellings lists will be learnt and tested in class each week but some children may be given additional high frequency words to learn at home. Additional handwriting may also be set.

Regular reading at home is important for all children as even able readers need to practise reading aloud. Please ensure that your child reads to you - and you to them - as often as you can. Learning to tell the time and using money can all be usefully practised at home, as can times tables and number facts.

### **PE Kit:**

PE will generally take place over Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. However, the school timetable is often subject to change so please make sure both indoor and outdoor PE kit is in school every day.

### **Helping in school:**

Help in class or elsewhere around the school is always appreciated. If you have some spare time to hear readers, or to share a skill or hobby, please let me know.

**Mr James Osler**

**Class teacher**

