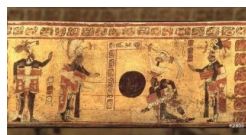


Welcome to the Maya!

Autumn Term 2023

Welcome back!! We all hope that you have had a restful summer and are looking forward to returning to school. Here is an overview of our first topic of the year.

In the jungles and hills of Central America, lie the ruins of a society that has fascinated historians for decades.—The Maya. By around AD 900, the Maya were an astonishingly advanced society with their own way of doing everything from farming to maths. **Take a look at what you are going to be learning about below...**



English	Through the text Journey and its sequel (Quest), Rain Player and The Hero Twins, the children's learning will include instructional writing, non-chronological report writing and punctuating speech. We will also be reading 'Tyger' by S F Said and learning various spelling patterns and statutory words for Year 5 & 6.
Maths	During our Maths sessions this term, children will be learning about the following: Yr5: Number: Place Value, Addition and Subtraction, Multiplication and Division & Fractions Yr6: Will be doing the above as well Converting Units (Measurement)
Science	As part of science, children will learn about properties and changes of materials where they will compare and group together everyday materials on the basis of their properties, including their hardness, solubility, transparency, conductivity (electrical and thermal), and response to magnets. By the end of the topic, they will know that some materials will dissolve in liquid to form a solution, and describe how to recover a substance from a solution. They will also apply their knowledge of solids, liquids and gases to decide how mixtures might be separated, including through filtering, sieving and evaporating which help the children understand the process of reversible/irreversible changes.
History	Children will study the Mayan civilisation where they will 'Meet the Maya', learn about their religion and Gods, use the Mayan number system, look at primary and secondary sources, find out about how the Mayans communicated through writing and also discover what foods they ate.
Geography	Children will learn about types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water (in relation to the Mayans). We will use maps to find out about Central America, name the countries it is made up of and plot ancient Mayan cities on maps too.
DT	Probably the most exciting part of the topic - chocolate! Our budding chocolatiers will get the chance to design and create their own chocolate as chocolate was very significant to the Mayan people.
Music	This term's music unit will introduce the classic rock musical genre to the children. We will be learning to sign the lyrics of a famous song too—wow! The children will receive specialist teaching in creating Mayan-style music.
Computing and Online Safety	The children will develop their understanding of computer systems and how information is transferred between systems and devices, explaining the input, output and process aspects. The children will learn how to select and rank results on the world wide web and what can influence these searches. They will create short videos where they will capture, edit and manipulate videos from design to completion. They will evaluate and present their outcomes. The children will be reminded of online safety rules and guidance in all cross-curricular opportunities focusing on self-image and identity and health and wellbeing.
MFL	In French, we will be asking 'Do You Have a Pet?' and the children will be introduced to the eight common pets as well as the phrase 'J'ai' (I have), the connective 'mais' (but), 'qui s'appelle' (that is called) and the NEGATIVE 'Je n'ai pas de' (I do not have a).
RE	We will be exploring and discussing the following two questions this term: Why do some people think that God exists? Is it better to express your religion in arts and architecture or charity and generosity?
PSHE	In PSHE this term, we will be covering the following two topics: 'Being Me in My World' and 'Celebrating Difference'.
PE	The children will take part in outdoor and adventurous activity challenges both individually and within a team. They will also use running, jumping, throwing and catching in isolation and in combination and take part in competitive games.

Other Experiences

The Year 5&6 children will be looking at how to keep themselves safe, receive a visit from the Life Education team and prepare for Christmas! There will be a range of wider curriculum opportunities for children to take part in as always.