

Our theme this term is... **The Maya and Space**



As scientists we will:

- Describe the Earth, Sun and Moon as spherical bodies.
- Name and order the planets of our Solar System.
- Describe the movement of Earth relative to Sun.
- Understand day and night – write explanations using labelled diagrams to help .
- Describe the movement of moon relative to Earth.
- Know the phases of the moon and understand terms waxing, waning, full, crescent and half.
- Make link to seasons and the orbit of the Earth around the Sun.

As historians we will:

Focus on investigating key aspects of the Maya Civilisation c. AD 900 and comparing it to British history both before, during and after this time.

Understand characteristic features and achievements of past non-European societies

Understand the methods of historical enquiry, including how evidence is used rigorously to make historical claims, and discern how and why contrasting arguments and interpretations of the past have been constructed .

As writers we will:

We will be using *“The Firebird”* and *“Can we Save the Tiger”* to help us to identify and discuss themes and conventions in writing, whilst making comparisons within and across books.

We will ask questions to improve our understanding and help to summarise the main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph. We will use this text to identify how language, structure and presentation contribute to meaning.

As mathematicians we will:

- Recognise and calculate with decimals and negative numbers, including decimals.
- Secure understanding of formal methods of multiplication , including prime, square and cube numbers.
- Use multiplication to scale up and down, for example to change recipes.
- Use our knowledge of place value and multiplication and division to convert between standard units of metric measures.
- Consolidate our understanding of shape and secure our ability to measure and draw angles, rotate and translate shapes.

French:

This term, we will be consolidating our discussion of clothes, using adjectives to describe the colour of different items. We will continue to apply our knowledge of phonics and grammar to read and write simple sentences.

As artists we will:

Use in school research and inspiration from modern day advertising to design and produce food wrappers.

As programmers we will:

Create and animate 3D images

RE:

We will be considering the idea of Salvation in relation to the Easter story.

PE:

Our indoor PE sessions will be Gym and will be on a Friday afternoon
Outdoor PE will be tennis and will continue to be taught by Mr Tinkler on Wednesdays.

PSHE:

Our topic is personal safety.

Music:

Year 5 will be having music every Wednesday with Mr Randall.

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We do hope you had a restful half term break. We were really impressed by the quantity and quality of work which the children produced last half term, and are excited about what lies ahead of us this term.

This half term, the classes will be learning about The Maya and how this great civilisation overcame challenges and how they lived. We will visit The Museum of Archaeology and Archaeology to support our learning.

We shall also be finding out about Space; it is clear that some of the children are already very knowledgeable and we are keen to encourage their enthusiasm.

The children have made great progress in English and Maths, and are all learning important skills like self correction, resilience and questioning. The standard of their presentation has improved across the year group and it is lovely to see some writing in pen; many of the remaining children are very close to receiving their pen licence!

As ever, thank you very much for your continuing support. Do look out for the new homework menu and encourage your children to ask us if they need support!

If you have any questions or would like to talk to us at any point, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Either make an appointment through the School Office, or catch us at the end of the day.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Harwood and Miss Ryan

Dates for your diary

Reading Cafes - Wednesday 16th March, Wednesday 3rd April

Useful information for this half term...

Please ensure your child brings their P.E. kit in on a Monday and leave it in school until Friday. Occasionally, PE lessons have to change due to inclement weather. This half term our indoor PE will be Gym on a Friday afternoon and outdoor PE will usually be on a Wednesday.

The children should still be bringing their reading record into school every day. The reading record should be signed, either by themselves or by an adult, to show that they have read. It is a great way for the children to share their opinion on the book, both with yourselves and us.

Now that the weather is turning warmer, please ensure that your child has a named water bottle in school every day. Coats and school jumpers should also be named.



In the interests of safety, any child cycling must have a set of front and rear lights to ensure that they are visible, along with a helmet.

Ways to help your child at home...

Continue to encourage your child to read a variety of texts and genres, not just books brought home from school. Listen to your child read and ask them questions about the text to help their understanding. They may also wish to read the newspaper as we are currently promoting this within school.

Support your child to practise key skills at home, such as handwriting, spelling and times tables. We will continue to test spellings and times tables on a weekly basis, and neat, fluid, joined-up handwriting is a key part of the curriculum.

Remember children really need a lot of sleep to learn effectively, at 9 - 10 years of age, around 10 hours sleep is best. Having a good, healthy breakfast and a snack of fruit or vegetable at break time also means they are prepared for their learning!