



# Spring Term

## Y5/6 Curriculum Newsletter



Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely break over Christmas and wish you all the best for the year ahead. It is great to see the children again after the holidays and they very much enjoyed the pantomime on their first day back. This is the work that the children will be covering over the following term in Y5/6:

### History: The Ancient Maya

This half term, Year 5 and 6 will meet the wonderful world of the Ancient Maya. They will learn who they were and when they existed, as well as comparing this to what was happening in Britain and around the world at the same time. Children will explore different sources of evidence and use lego and playdough to learn more about the structure of their settlements. We will also take part in the ancient Maya game of Pok-tapok, although I assure you we will not be sacrificing the winners of the game to the Gods as reward. Of course we will also be learning all about Maya maths! We will be studying the Dresden Codex and using our new knowledge to solve problems. Finally, we will play detectives and study the mysterious case of the decline of the Maya, putting forward our own theories as to their disappearance.

### Science: Earth and Space



The learning within this theme focuses on the Earth and Space. We will learn about the characteristics of the planets before making our own model of the solar system, we will also be learning about the shape and relative sizes of the Earth, Sun and Moon. In addition to this, we will be describing the movement of the Moon and the Earth in relation to the sun in the solar system, before using this idea of the Earth's rotation to help us explain day and night.

### Art:

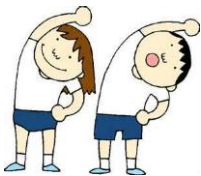
In Art this half term we will be creating Mayan Glyph tablets through the skill of 3D artwork. Within our Art topic, we will be analysing and evaluating existing Mayan artwork, whilst developing our 3D art skills in using clay, producing intricate patterns and textures in a malleable media.



**PE:** This half term children will be learning tactics for attacking and defending in a variety of games.

Doves – Monday & Thursday  
Kingfishers – Thursday & Friday  
Eagles – Monday & Thursday

*Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school at all times. This includes shorts, t-shirt, suitable footwear and a tracksuit for colder weather.*



### RE: Mayan Civilisation

In RE, children will produce a podcast about the Maya story of creation and role play parts of Maya religious festivals. Children will research Maya Gods and learn about the role of Maya priests compared to priests today. Finally, children will explore the Maya beliefs about the afterlife and compare Maya beliefs to other religions children have studied.



### PSHE: What are human rights?



This half term children in Year 5 and Year 6 will be learning about human rights. They will have an understanding of the process involving in making laws whilst learning how to take part and the importance of this.

This will be explored through thought provoking discussions, role play and detailed information from specialist organisations and charities.

### Computing: Computer Science

This term in computing we will be focusing on computer science. We will learn how to use logical reasoning to explain how simply algorithms work. In addition to this. We will be using and editing pre-written algorithms in order to achieve a specific outcome linked to our topic.



### Music: New Year Carol

This term, we will be looking at the song 'New Year Carol', listening and appraising it before learning to sing it.



Please ensure your child is always fully prepared for the school day with their school bag, PE kit, reading record & reading book, homework, and anything else they may have been asked to bring in.



### Home learning:

- Read at home for 15-20 minutes every day
- Practice spellings
- Learn times tables
- Complete any weekly Maths & English
- Try to join in with the new half termly project work



### Our School Blog

Please check our school blog regularly. There are lots of photographs of what we have been up to in school and of special events. We also put homework up on there too. If you have a problem logging in, please let one of the Y5/6 team know and we can resolve the problem as soon as we can. It would be great to see some comments being added to the blogs as this is something the children enjoy reading and gives them further pride in their accomplishments.



