

# Year 5 Spring Term 'The Magnificent Mayas'

## ENGLISH

### Writing composition:

The children will write in many contexts (not just in literacy lessons) and for different purposes, including an explanation of how chocolate is made, a modern version of a Mayan folktale and a poem based on the mysterious Mayans.

The children study structure and language features before they write. The writing process involves planning, drafting, editing and proof reading, evaluation and oral presentation and/or publishing.

Handwriting is cursive (joined). We encourage all children to use pen so that they develop a fluent and confident handwriting style.

Great effort and improvement is recognised and celebrated. Some children may even win a Star Writer award!

children may even win a Star Writer award!

### Grammar and punctuation:

Whenever possible, this is taught in the context of the writing process, but there may be times when discrete lessons are needed. The programme of study includes:

- using relative clauses
- using devices to build cohesion within and across paragraphs
- indicating degrees of possibility using adverbs or modal verbs
- using commas to clarify meaning or avoid ambiguity
- using dashes, commas or brackets to indicate parenthesis
- use language of modal verb, relative pronoun, relative clause, parenthesis, bracket, dash, cohesion and ambiguity.

### Spelling:

In year 5 the children have daily spelling sessions following the Get Spelling programme.

### Reading

The children have a reading session every day. They read a range of literature (including poetry, novels and nonfiction books) and are encouraged to make recommendations to others. The children have regular guided reading sessions with their teacher, which develop comprehension skills.

The class teacher reads aloud a class novel; this term's stories will include *To the Stars by Canoe* and *The Chocolate Tree* (both Mayan folktales). The children will also develop their understanding of literature through drama activities, formal presentations and debates.

## ART and DESIGN

Children will be creating a Mayan headdress by crafting together a range of materials. They will research headdresses worn by the Mayan people before creating their own designs in their sketch books and creating them.

## HISTORY

Children will be learning about the people, places and beliefs of the Ancient Mayan civilisation. They will explore who they were, their food and farming, religions, rulers trades and communications through a series of questions such as 'Why did the Mayas build pyramids?'

## MATHS

We believe that Maths is a creative subject. Reasoning and Problem Solving skills are at the heart of mathematical understanding and are woven into our daily maths lesson. In addition, our learners are given frequent opportunities to use mathematics in other areas of the curriculum.

### Number/Calculation

Year 5 will build on the work done in place value so far to round any number up to a million to the nearest 10, 100, 1000, 10 000 and 100 000.

They will begin to read Roman numerals to 1000 (M).

They will be using formal written methods to multiply, divide up to four digit numbers by one or two digit numbers as well as continuing to develop skills in addition and subtraction.

### Geometry/Measures/Statistics

Year Five will measure and calculate the perimeter of irregular shapes made from rectangles in centimetres and metres and will calculate and compare the area of rectangles (including squares), and including using standard units, square centimetres and square metres and estimate the area of irregular shapes.

They will use the properties of rectangles to deduce related facts and find missing lengths and angles.

Work with statistics will include solving comparison, sum and difference problems using information presented in a line graph and may be learned and applied in science lessons.

### Fractions and decimals

Learners will practise adding and subtracting fractions. They extend their understanding of adding and subtracting fractions to calculations that exceed 1 as a mixed number.

Pupils continue to practise counting forwards and backwards in simple fractions.

Talk is a crucial tool in the understanding of maths. Here, learners are encouraged to use precise mathematical language to discuss ideas, create debate and identify and resolve problems.

This may take the form of whole class discussion, paired talk or group collaboration.

## DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Children will be learning the principles of a healthy and varied diet. They will prepare and cook a variety of predominantly savoury dishes on a Mexican theme. They will learn about seasonality and learn about a variety of ingredients and the reasons why they are commonly used in Mexican dishes.

## GEOGRAPHY

Children's geography work will be centred around Chocolate and fair trade, taking advantage of Fair Trade Fortnight (23<sup>rd</sup> February).

They will locate the world's countries using maps and how the physical geography of those countries makes them ideal for producing cocoa beans.

## MODERN LANGUAGES

The children will continue with their study of French, when they will:

- speak
- read
- write
- and look at the culture of the countries where French is spoken

## MUSIC

During this term our focus will be on music composition around the theme 'Journey into Space'. Children will improvise and compose music inspired by a study of 'The Planets Suite' by Gustav Holst. We will be using computer software to create and edit music.

## SCIENCE

In science our focus for the term will be on Earth and Space with links made to Mayan astronomy. We will start by learning about the movement of the Earth and other planets relative to the Sun before looking at the movement of the moon relative to the Earth. We will use the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky.

We will also revisit the topic of Forces, looking in particular at gravity, air and water resistance and friction. We shall also study mechanisms such as levers, pulleys and gears, which all allow a smaller force to have a greater effect.

## COMPUTING

In our computing sessions we will be learning how to use Google maps to discover more about cocoa producing countries.

We will use music editing software to create and edit music and use these within multimedia presentations created using Photostory.

We will continue to improve typing speed and accuracy.

Within our E Safety focus for the term we will be learning what spam is, the forms it takes, and then identifying strategies for dealing with it. We will also look at the issues surrounding mobile phone use including contracts, running up bills and cyber bullying.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The children will learn to play football and develop their attacking and defending skills. They will develop coordination, timing, strength, technique and balance through dance in response to the music 'The Planet Suite' by Holst.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION and PSHE

In RE the children will study what people believe, expressions of faith, and lifestyles in the context of Islam.

The School uses the Suffolk Agreed Syllabus for RE In PSHE sessions will focus on our responsibilities as global citizens, linking in to fair trade and an introduction to careers and how learning links to our future employability. PSHE is enriched with circle time, Building Learning Power and mentoring sessions.