



The Marvellous Maya

Year 4 – Autumn Term – Curriculum Overview

During the Autumn term we will be learning about the ancient Maya civilisation.

English

We will look at familiar stories such as Charlie and the Chocolate Factory as well as ancient myths. We will also navigate non-fiction texts as part of our research into our new topic. We will explore our new 'Take One Book' book – Hermelin: the Detective Mouse. Reading and writing instructions will also be a cross curricular element with DT. Our spelling patterns will be linked to the Year 3/4 key words, as well as common prefixes and suffixes. We will work on punctuation and grammatical features such as pronouns and determiners.

Maths

We will be looking at concrete, pictorial and abstract methods for learning, as well as how to explain our methods and answers. Our focus will predominantly be on using number to secure place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will also cover shape and measurement objectives on a weekly basis. We will be placing a great deal of focus on times tables – gaining security in rapid recall of all the tables up to 12. This will prepare the children for the Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check national assessment in June.

Science

This term's science focus will be "States of Matter". This will involve learning about the properties of solids, liquids and gases, and how some materials can change from one state to another and back again. We will learn how to work scientifically, creating our own experiments and lines of enquiry. This will also link to our mathematical skills when measuring temperature and reading scales.

Computing

This term will see the children continue to learn how to use computers and the internet safely. They will learn specific terms related to e-safety and how to use different features of the world wide web. They will also use tools to create texts and pictures, adding different features to a document.

History

We will be learning about the Maya civilisation – researching into the impact this specific period of history has had and how this civilisation lived during these times. We will consider how these people travelled and traded, as well as their culture and beliefs.

Geography

Our geography will link to our History work, using mapping skills to locate related places. We will also consider the different uses of land and how our local environment differs to the ancient lands of the Maya.

Art

Linking to the topic, we will be researching the importance of masks to the Maya and have a go at creating our own. We will use sketch books to record our ideas and plan designs. We will also focus on facial features, portraits and study the famous Mexican artist, Frida Kahlo.

P.E

This half term our P.E. focus will be gymnastics, football and rugby. Later in the term we will focus on dance, netball and basketball. The children will be taught the importance of keeping fit and how to maintain a healthy body and mind.

Music

The children will develop listening skills and how to appreciate different musical styles. They will have the opportunity to perform their own compositions, following structures to design their own styles of music.

PSHE

This term's PSHE topics are titled "Celebrating Differences" and "Being Me in My World". The children will learn about rewards and sanctions as well as the rules that are all around us. They will learn what makes them special, as well as how special each individual is around them.

R.E

We will focus on belief systems of Judaism and Christianity this term. We will consider aspects of religious buildings and texts, making comparisons and links between the different faiths. We will explore the important people of each religion and share personal and new experiences.

D.T

Our main focus will be on food technology. The food element will link to the topic as there will be chocolate involved. We will be considering how chocolate has been used in the past as well as the present. The children will also learn about food hygiene and food safety.

Spanish

This term the children will experience reading, writing and speaking Spanish, thinking about pronunciation and language structure. Our focus will include greetings, numbers, days of the week, months of the year, and naming classroom objects.

Thank you for your support,

Miss Holmes ☺