

Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter to Parents Autumn 2: Communication The Mayans!



Dear Parents and Carers,

Our main topic area this half-term is the Mayans. We hope this leaflet is useful to show you what your child will be learning in school and the kinds of activities you could do at home to support their learning.

Communication

Our whole-school topic this half term is 'Communication'. We will be carrying out a range of activities linked to working together to improve our communication skills.



Homework

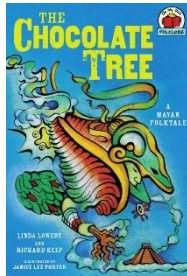
On a weekly basis, children are expected to:

- **Read to an adult 5 times each week for a minimum of 10 minutes.** This can be all different text types, including fiction and non-fiction. It can include reading a recipe or reading to a younger sibling!
- **Practise their times tables ready to be tested every Tuesday.** This can be done using Times Tables Rockstars.
- **Practise their spellings ready to be tested every Monday.**

Children may also be given additional subject specific homework.

English and Reading

Our reading sessions will be based around the Mayans, exploring non-fiction texts about different aspects of Maya life. Our book for this half term, will be 'The Chocolate Tree', which is a traditional Mayan myth. We will be exploring relative clauses and imagery to create character descriptions. After this, we will write a discussion text examining how to write a balanced argument before getting creative with our own poems based on Mayan masks.



Maths

We will be practising skills related to written multiplication and division. We will break down the written methods of column multiplication and short division beginning with smaller numbers and building up to 4-digit numbers. Within division, we will also explore the concept of remainders before applying our knowledge to practical, real-life scenarios.

Topic

Our Topic 'The Mayans' will focus on ancient Mesoamerican civilisation. We will explore what Maya life was like through a range of sources (including chocolate!!). We will also examine how the same event can be viewed differently depending on the sources by exploring the Spanish invasion of South America.

Design Technology/Art

During DT and art, we will be exploring the technique of weaving. To start we will look at examples of weaving from around the world before trying out the techniques ourselves and planning a Mayan-inspired piece.

Personal, Social, Health, & Emotional Education (PSHE)

In PSHE, to tie in with Anti-bullying Week, we will be looking at the forms of bullying and what to do if this occurs. We will also learn about how to stay safe online, questioning the impact that the online world can have on our mental and physical wellbeing.

Physical Education

Our PE days will predominantly be Thursday and Friday, though children must have their Ashbourne Primary PE kit in school all the time in case the day is changed due to the weather. Children will also need a reusable water bottle and trainers for outdoor PE.

Our PE focuses this half-term will be tag rugby (which will be taught by Mr Murphy) and netball. Within the two sports we will explore the rules and techniques including pass types and position.

Religious Education

This half term, we will be asking the question 'What would Jesus do?'. We will be examining Jesus' teachings and explore how they can be applied to modern modern dilemmas.

Music

In music this half term, we will be learning the recorder. Over the weeks we will learn how to read notes on a staff and explore how to write different rhythms. To culminate our learning, we will learn a Christmas song to perform at the Y5/6 Christmas Afternoon.

Spanish

During our Spanish lessons, we will be learning how to say the names of different hobbies. We will then progress onto saying what hobbies we like and dislike.