

## SCHOOL NOTICE BOARD

### Year 5 Newsletter - Spring Term 2

## Maya Civilisation



In Maths this half term, we will be introducing ourselves to decimals and percentages, applying our existing knowledge of fractions to our new knowledge and converting between them. We'll be reading, writing, ordering, rounding and comparing numbers with up to three decimal places. Then, we'll move on to a unit on Measurement, where we'll look at perimeter and area. Finally, we'll become statisticians and read different kinds of tables and draw our own line graphs.

In English, we will immerse ourselves in the beautiful graphic novel, 'Rain Player' by David Wisniewski - a tale of bravery, kindness and determination. The class will be writing their own action-packed journey tales, continuing on to write our own persuasive texts!

In RE, we will be focusing on 'Salvation' for this term's Christianity unit, leading us up to Easter and examining the Easter story. We will be exploring the key question: 'What did Jesus do to save Human Beings?' and we will look at key moments in Jesus' life, using Biblical passages to help us answer our focus question. We'll also research some influential people through history who have made sacrifices for what they believe in.

As Scientists, we will be starting the unit 'Forces', where we will conduct investigations into friction, air resistance, and water resistance.

In History, we will continue learning all about the Maya Civilisation - where they lived; significant events in Mayan history; important inventions; and an examination of what happened to their city-states. As part of our Geography focus, we will be finishing our OS Maps and Fieldwork unit, then will revisit Biomes.

We will be continuing with our Philosophical thinking this half term (P4C) and will use a range of stimuli to guide us to devise our own questions for class discussions, centring on the theme of fears and worries. This will help us to deepen our thinking skills and increase our confidence with sharing our ideas and understanding everyday concepts.

#### Ideas for home learning:

- Find out about Mexican wildlife and fauna.
- Research Maya hieroglyphs and symbols, then write your own short message to a friend.
- Research songs related to Mexico.
- Go to a supermarket and find foods imported from Mexico.
- Design and build your own Maya temple using junk materials.
- Make a Mexican skull and decorate it

The children will be given a weekly English comprehension and Maths slip as well as their weekly spellings, which they must practise ready for the spelling test on Fridays

PE will continue for Year 5 twice a week (Mondays and Wednesdays) as swimming lessons have come to an end. The Year 5 team are very much looking forward to the Spring 2 half term; if you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to ask!

Miss Dooley and the Y5 team