

This term the main Year 5 topic is **The Mayan Civilisation**.  
The topic offers some cross-curricular opportunities and will be closely linked to History, Geography, Art and Literacy. We will also be looking at **Earth and Space** in Science.

### This term's topics

- **Science** – Earth and Space & Forces
- **History/Geography** – Mayan Civilisation / Mountains
- **Art** – Every Picture Tells a Story
- **DT** – Structures
- **RE** – 'What is the golden rule?'
- **French** – La date

## Spring Term in Year 5

Welcome back after our Christmas break. We hope the children enjoyed their time off and had a well-earned rest. This term we would like to ask you to help us with a focus on reading. Can you ensure your child reads regularly at home as it is so important.

Thank you.

### Home Learning

The children are expected to read at least four times a week for a minimum of 20 minutes. We encourage parents to ask questions to check their child's understanding and explain their thinking.

**PLEASE ensure the reading record is signed weekly!**

There will also be one piece of curriculum based work. These should be completed by pupils within a 45 minute timeframe. **Remember to check My Maths weekly!**

Work will be set on a Friday and should be returned by the following Wednesday.

Please also use the websites listed to help your child consolidate their learning.

### Useful Websites

#### History -

<http://www.dkfindout.com/uk/history/mayans/>  
<http://mayas.mrdonn.org/>  
<http://www.mayankids.com/>



#### Useful site -

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/kids-and-schools/kids-and-families/kids/>

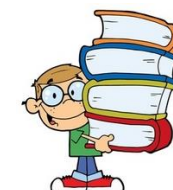
#### Science –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BT49AiYFV98>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p00n6zgy>

### Special events

*The children will continue with weekly swimming sessions on a Thursday morning at Spelthorne Leisure Centre. So P.E. day is Monday. Swimming kits need to be remembered on a Thursday. P.E. kits will then need to be worn on Monday.*



## This term, as part of their core subjects of study...

### Maths

The focus for this term in Maths in the White Rose scheme:

- Converting improper fractions and mixed numbers
- Finding equivalent fractions
- Comparing and ordering fractions
- Adding and subtracting fractions
- Multiplying fractions by whole numbers and by mixed numbers

As well as learning the specific skills for each topic, the children will also be applying these skills through problem solving activities, investigations, and real-life scenarios. They will continue to do short daily mental maths activities to help speed up their recall and mental calculations.

### English

We will be continuing our work on Stormbreaker and then be moving onto features of poems and biographies and the children will be writing their own poems and biographies about famous authors.

Our class text for a lot of the term will be the classic children's novel, Tom's Midnight Garden, which will provide the focus for reading, writing and speaking and listening activities. The writing activities related to the novel will provide the children with the opportunity to write creatively, as well as to apply the technical aspects of spelling, punctuation and grammar that form a large part of the Year 5 curriculum.

### Science

This term we will be learning about Earth and Space. Then we will be moving onto forces. We will be making a mathematically accurate model of a solar system, learning how the planets are grouped and what the views of some early scientists were on it.

The children will develop their use of scientific vocabulary as well as developing key scientific enquiry skills such as 'Measuring' and 'Observing'

In our forces sessions we will look at friction, gravity and resistance.

## As part of their wider, topic related studies...

### History

We will be learning about the different aspects of the lifestyle and chronology of the Mayan civilisation.

### Computing

We will cover programming with a focus on selection in physical computing. The children will have the chance to programme crumbles and get them to do a variety of things.

### PE

**Swimming** – weekly sessions.

**Monday lesson with TK** - Football

### PSHE

We will be thinking about healthy and unhealthy habits, what risks are positive and negative and we will touch on the subject of bullying.

### RE the questions we will study are:

What is the golden rule and are they all the same?

How can we live together in one World?

How do Christians know what happened at Easter?

### Geography

The children will study mountains of the UK and the world. They will be looking at where the mountains are and why do they form.

### Art

In art, children will be looking at work by Banksy, Rorschach and John Singer Sargent. They will be analysing the artist's work to understand the messages they are portraying and creating their own work with a message.

### Design and Technology

The children will be exploring, making and evaluating structures. We will be looking at permanent and temporary structures.

### Music

Children will be listening and appraising African jazz songs and music. They will have the opportunity to use a glockenspiel to play simple tunes.

### Modern Foreign Languages (French)

The children will be learning how to write and say the date. We will then move onto ordering food and drink in a café.