



This term the 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.

This term's topics

- **Science** – Materials and their properties
- **History/Geography** – Mayan Civilisation
- **Art** – Famous designers
- **DT** – Related to Mayans
- **RE** – Sikhism
- **French** – En route pour l'école

Spring Term in Year 5

We are very excited to be back after the festive break. Again we would like to thank you for your generosity. We hope the children have had a well-earned rest and are now ready for the Spring Term.

This is an important term for making progress – we shall have a strong focus on the children taking responsibility in making strides with their learning, using all the resources available to them.

Home Learning

The children are expected to read at least four times a week for a minimum of 10 minutes. We encourage parents to ask questions to check their child's understanding and explain their thinking.

PLEASE ensure reading record is signed weekly!

There will also be one to two pieces of curriculum based work. These should be completed by pupils within a 45 minute timeframe.

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

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/maths/>



History -

<http://www.dkfindout.com/uk/history/mayans/>

<http://mayas.mrdonn.org/>

<http://www.mayankids.com/>

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

Science -

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/Interactive.aspx?cat=70>

http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/science/materials/material_properties/read/1/

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primarylanguages/french/>

Class visits, visitors and special events

We do not have any trips planned at the moment, but are hoping to visit a Sikh place of worship and visit a museum to support topic and Science – we will contact you as soon as we have made arrangements.



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

Maths – Fractions, decimals and percentages (whole term)

- Compare and order fractions whose denominators are multiples of the same number.
- Identify, name and write equivalent fractions of a given fraction, represented visually including tenths and hundredths.
- Recognise mixed numbers and improper fractions and convert from one form to the other and write mathematical statements >1 as a mixed number.
- Add and subtract fractions with the same denominator and denominators that are multiples of the same number.
- Multiply proper fractions and mixed numbers by whole numbers, supported by materials and diagrams. Read and write decimal numbers as fractions.
- Solve problems involving multiplication and division, including scaling by simple fractions and problems involving simple rates.
- Read, write, order and compare numbers with up to three decimal places.
- Recognise and use thousandths and relate them to tenths, hundredths and decimal equivalents.

English

The class novel during the first half of the term is David Almond's 'Skellig' - Michael, the main character, moves into a new house and is surprised by what he finds in his garage. Watch film here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TvFj9pc0r8U>

Examples of other Year 5 children's work based on the book

http://www.alleyns.org.uk/alleyn/documents/Junior%20School%20Docs/Ed-Word/Ed-Word_2012-13/Ed-Word_2012-13_5B_Books.pdf

We will continue to look at writing in complex sentences and working through spelling lists for Year 5 and 6.

Science

This term we will be looking at and investigating **Materials and their Properties**.

<http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/gamesactivities/materialproperties.html>

We will test the properties of materials through investigations. The children will develop their use of scientific vocabulary as well as develop key skills such as 'Measuring' and 'Observing'.

Changes in materials will also be studied by looking at 'Reversible' and 'Irreversible' changes.

<http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/gamesactivities/reversiblechanges.html>

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 be looking at ways to keep safe online and how to identify inappropriate behaviours. We will be looking computer programming using Kodu, a visual programming language made specifically for creating games.

PE

Indoor P.E. sessions:

Balances - counter, dynamic and static balances

Outdoor P.E. - Invasion games (football and netball)

PSHE

We will be thinking about goals and ambitions and how to set realistic targets. We will be identifying our own and others' special qualities.

RE the questions studied are:

What does it mean to be a Sikh?

Sikh stories for children

<https://www.sikhnet.com/stories>

Geography

The children will be locating Mexico on a world map and learning about specific regions and cities in Mexico related to the Mayan civilisation.

Art

We will be researching and learning about the artist Charles Mackintosh and looking at his furniture and wallpaper designs. The children will explore his unique style through the medium of painting, drawing and printing.

Design and Technology

The children will be exploring various textiles and media relating to the Art and Mayan topics. They will also have the opportunity to cook.

Music

Stop! (Grime, Classical, Bhangra, Tango, Latin Fusion)
Classroom Jazz (History of Jazz in its historical context)

Modern Foreign Languages (French)

The children are learning about what they see on the way to school and at the beach.