

Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter – Term 5 & 6

Here's a glimpse of what to expect in term 5 and 6. This term our topic is called **The Marvellous Mayans** and next term our topic will **Magical Worlds** and be based on Harry Potter!

In **English** this term, the children have been looking at writing information texts (or non-chronological reports). After looking at texts based on trolls from Shadow Forest (our class book), the children will write information texts about the Maya civilization. We will also be looking at stories from other cultures and looking at the Maya Creation Story. Next term, our writing will take inspiration from Harry Potter, as we write stories based on imaginary worlds. We will be thinking about the features and how they compare to stories set in reality.

In **Topic** our work will include learning about the accomplishments of the Ancient Maya and how/when they lived. We will move on to map work, which will involve reading, understanding symbols and creating our own maps linked to 'The Forbidden Forest' and Hogwarts from Harry Potter.

In **Mathematics** the children will be working on addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. They will be focusing on solving 'real life' problems including money, time and measures and applying strategies learnt in class. The children will continue to develop their knowledge of times tables and apply these to solve patterns and problems.

In **French** the children will be learning new vocabulary to enable them to discuss their life at school. We will be focusing on: telling the time, days of the week, school subjects and places within the school environment.

This term the children will continue to develop their swimming skills each Tuesday. We will also be playing cricket, before moving on to Athletics in the final term.

Please could you ensure that PE/swimming kits are in school on Tuesdays.

During outside PE lessons, the children will need to wear **trainers**. They will also need a **water bottle, sun hat and sun cream**.

In Term 6, our ICT is linked to explanation texts, where the children will make PowerPoints explaining how their wands work! They will use animations and sound to make these appear magical.

Homework:

- Children are expected to read at least three times a week at home and have their Home/School Communication Book signed by an adult each time. It will be checked daily so please continue to use the book for comments/messages etc.
- Please also encourage the children to practise their times tables, as they will need to have these at their fingertips for the majority of the mathematics that we will be looking at.
- **To be set every Friday and to be handed in the following Wednesday.**

In **PSHE** our focus this term is on relationships. The children will be learning about taking responsibility for their behaviour, understanding their feelings and identifying when they might feel like this.

Our **DT** will be linked to Harry Potter and the creation of magical foods. We will be looking at recipes and planning, making and evaluating our own food.

In **Science**, we have continued to focus on living things, which explore food chains, habitats and diets. Following this, we will learn more about the differences between solids, liquids and gases and reversible and irreversible changes.

Our **Art** will focus on the tribal art of the Ancient Mayans and the stories they tell. Children will design their own images based on the Mayan creation myth. We will also explore art form other cultures, including Tingatinga paintings from East Africa.

Our WOW this term will be connected to the Mayans, where we will be having a Mayan feast and wearing Mayan headdress that we will make in DT. More news to follow next term in relation to our Harry Potter day.

With best wishes
The Year 4 Team