

SPRING TERM

Happy New Year and welcome back! We hope that you all had a lovely Christmas and a well deserved break after a busy term. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the Christmas cards and gifts we received. We have now settled back into routine and have started our new learning challenge. This overview will inform you about what we are learning about this term.

ENGLISH

Our key texts this term will link to our learning challenge curriculum; with a focus on The Maya. Children will read a range of texts and information about the ancient civilization to produce a number of written outcomes. Grammar skills will be taught throughout each unit, with children learning how to apply the skills they have been taught in all of their written work. Our key texts are 'The Rain Player' and 'The Viewer'.

READING

After reading different texts on The Maya, children will be encouraged to summarise the key points from the texts and discuss their thoughts and feelings. They will be taught how to analyse the writers use of language and grammatical features that make it effective. These are skills that children can apply to their home reading. Please ensure that your child continues to read at home and ask them regularly what their book is about. This encourages them to use their comprehension skills.

SPELLING

Spelling units will be taught over a two week period. Spellings will be sent home for children to practise.

MATHS

Maths will continue to be taught by Mrs Baron, Mrs Pearson and Mrs Dunderdale. Homework is generally given out every Friday and is to be handed in to their maths teacher every Thursday. Depending on what is being taught in class and children's individual needs, this may differ on a weekly basis as we move towards SATS. Times table knowledge is essential. This can be achieved by playing Times Tables Rockstars!



PE, DANCE AND FRENCH

Taught by specialist teachers on Wednesdays. For PE, in addition to your **school PE kit**, we suggest that your child brings a suitable jumper and tracksuit pants or leggings for the colder weather! This must be in school every week. **Please DO NOT send football kits.**

STAR vocabulary

This is a list of key vocabulary that children will be archaeology, astronomy, ritual, solar, sacrifice, civilisation, scholar.

Long Ago and Far Away

During this unit, children will be learning about the ancient civilization of the Maya. They will learn about who they were and how they fit into history; the Maya religion and gods; and their writing and number system. Children will create masks and look at how art during this period reflected the Maya beliefs and values.

KEYSTAGE 2 SATs

As you will be aware, our SAT examinations are taking place week commencing **Monday 11th May 2020**. We will be starting to prepare the children for these in the coming weeks and will keep you informed about their progress and any ways in which you can help them. If you wish to purchase any materials, please do not hesitate to come and ask for further advice.

**Kind regards,
Mrs Baron and Mrs Pearson**