



AUTUMN TERM 1 – 2023-2024—Curriculum Newsletter YEAR 5

Dear Parents and Carers. Welcome back to Pinner Wood and welcome to Year 5. Teaching in Year 5 this year are Mrs Young, Mr Parnell, Mrs Adcock and Mrs Wallace, supported by Mrs Seshadri, Mrs Carter and Mrs Saigel. We are really looking forward to this year because we have some fantastic topics to study in history and geography lessons as well as completing some fascinating science experiments. Our talented team will ensure that all learning needs and levels are catered for and everyone has an exciting and productive term back at school.

This half term, our topic is **Marvellous Mayans** and we will be focussing our learning around the key question **‘What was Mayan civilisation like?’**

Our **‘Stunning Start’** to launch our topic will be:

Now Press Play – The Maya

We will enhance children’s learning and **‘Cultural Capital’** with the following virtual experiences, websites and texts:

Mayan Morning consisting of a carousel of activities
Making Mayan masks
Mayan hot chocolate recipe

Our **‘Showstopper’** piece of work at the end of the topic will be:

Creating a ‘ThingLink’ of Chichen Itza

Our **‘Shared Outcome’** to communicate our learning with others will be:

Sharing our Mayan Mask within our year group and on seesaw





Here is a breakdown of the skills and knowledge to be covered in each subject through this topic:

English: We will be using the Talk4Writing style of learning. We will be covering a number of topics starting with wishing tales based on 'King of the Birds'. We will be using our class reader 'There's a boy in the girl's bathroom' by Louis Sachar as the stimulus to write character descriptions and resolution dialogue. Additionally, we will be covering grammar work such as paragraphs, headings and subheadings, relative clauses and determiners.

Reading: We will be reading our class reader 'There's a boy in the girl's bathroom' by Louis Sachar as a class, focussing on a different chapter or extract during guided reading lessons. We will be practising our predicting, clarifying, questioning and summarising skills. We would recommend that children purchase a copy of the book, please see the link below.

Maths:

The children will be looking at various areas of Mathematics. This will include for place value, decimals and rounding as well as fractions. Additionally we will be looking at shapes. We will do reasoning problems every Friday as well as Maths Passports. Tuesdays to Thursdays we will be completing a basic skills activity to practise and apply our knowledge of numbers.

Science: In science we will be learning about the properties of materials, including insulators, hardness and solubility. We will also be learning about how mixtures can be separated by filtering, sieving, evaporating or magnets.

PE: In P.E. each class will be doing a different sport over the next three terms. These are: Netball, Football and Tennis.

Computing: The computing curriculum will be integrated in all our learning.

History: We will be studying the Ancient Maya civilisation and why they are important to study. The children will learn about Mayan culture, traditions and why the civilisation collapsed.

RE: We will be learning about Jainism and Buddhism and answering the question, 'Do all actions have a consequence?'

Art/DT: In the first week we will be producing portraits of our self and focusing on painting it in watercolour. Throughout the rest of the half term the children will be making Mayan Masks.

PSHE: The topic we will be studying is titled 'Being me and my world'. The children will be learning about how they can contribute to their class and school community.

Music: Our focus is the iconic rock song by Bon Jovi—Living on a Prayer.

• Useful websites and texts to support learning in this topic:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zq6svcw>

<https://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z4vc86f>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Search.aspx?Subject=16>

<https://nrich.maths.org/>

• Reminders:

- PE days are Monday and Wednesday for Sherwood and Daintree. Highgate will have PE on Tuesday and Thursdays.
- The children need to come to school in their PE kit. Please ensure that your child comes appropriately dressed for the weather.
- Please make sure that earrings are removed on PE days.
- Children must bring their reading records into school every day.

