



Gatekeepers Class Parent Plan: Mystery of the Maya. Spring 2022

Core values: Trust and Perseverance

Watch us soar on wings!



English

We are focussing our understanding around how events shape our world. As writers we will be developing our story writing skills by using the Banksy image of the girl with the red balloon as inspiration and taking part in debates about whether graffiti is art or vandalism. We will be creating fact books around the themes of migration for animals and people and sharing the story The Journey about refugees escaping their home country. To link in with our learning about the Maya, we will write stories and play scripts using folklore texts like the Hero Twins and the Kapok Tree.

Maths

Every day children practise their times tables and we have been impressed how quickly they are making progress. This term we will continue to develop mental strategies for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will also be investigating problems using the Mayan number system!

History and Geography - What makes a place special?

Following on from our Ancient Egypt topic we will be finding out about the Maya civilisation and reflecting on why we study it now. As geographers we will be looking at geographical features of Central and South America. We will consider what makes our school special.

French

We will learn how to write and speak about family, pets, clothes and food.

Scientists

We will be investigating how skeletons work and considering what advantages they give. We will also be taking part in some experiments to test our scientific thinking. We will be starting a project to help us learn about what plants need to grow.

Musicians

As musicians we will investigate how sound is made and travels, research instruments and make our own sound makers. We will appraise pop songs from the 1960s and 1970s - Lean on me by Bill Withers & Blackbird by the Beatles. We will also be learning to play the ukulele.

Computing

We will be learning how to input and manipulate data in spreadsheets and to create graphs. We will continue to think about online safety, this time focussing on emails.

Art and Design Technology

As artists, we will be exploring different letter styles and the impact of colour as we learn about graffiti. We will also develop our sketching techniques by exploring shading techniques using pencils with different leads. As designers we will explore Maya temples and create our own structures. We will also design and make our own head dresses. We will explore food in the Mayan times and make tortillas and hot chocolate.

RE

We will explore our focus core values in more depth and answer the questions: What does it mean to be part of a global Christian community and How do people respond to issues of poverty and justice?

RSHE

We will be learning about signs and triggers for feeling anxious and scared and coping strategies. We will discuss what feeling unsafe means and recap our network of hands. We will share similarities and differences between us.

Homework

Thank you for your continued support with homework. Revisiting learning helps progress.