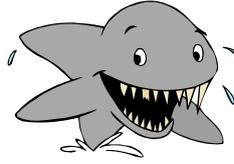




# Rye Community Primary School

"A Gateway to learning"



Dear Parents/Carers,

We are so excited to welcome the children back this term. They have been incredible and we have no doubt that the children will continue to show their engagement and enthusiasm with our next exciting topic during Term 4.

## Term 4 Learning in Year 5/6

Our planning this term will focus on the topic of: "‘Hola Mexico’ and the Maya." This fascinating learning journey will explore the ancient Maya civilization and how their environment, beliefs and knowledge made the Maya one of the most interesting, sophisticated civilizations. So far, the children in the Year 5/6 bubble and those at home have thoroughly enjoyed beginning to discover more about the marvelous Maya!

### Reading

In reading lessons, the children will be studying a range of genres and focusing on their comprehension skills, through both the daily use of 'Reading Eggs' and our 'Book Talk' lessons. We will be using 'Rain Player', by David Wisniewski, as the stimulus for our writing lessons, as well as 'The Great Chocoplot', written by Chris Callaghan. Our Book Talk sessions will be based on this text, which is an action-packed tale exploring what would happen should the world run out of chocolate! We will ensure a range of texts are used alongside this book, in addition please continue to encourage your children to read at home. This makes such a difference to their oral and written vocabulary.

### English

The children produced the most fantastic non-fiction pieces last term using our text, 'Shackleton's Journey', and created some brilliant non-chronological reports.

For this term, our English learning will first focus on creative writing, with the children writing descriptions of their very own Maya God. We will explore all there is to know on the traditional Maya Gods/Goddesses which will feed into their own writing. Following this, we will be writing our own biographies as we begin Book Week, looking at a range of inspirational figures in modern history. As the term finishes, our final unit of work will be to create a book review. This will involve an in-depth study of the book itself, 'Rain Player', and we will be comparing and contrasting this text with other familiar stories.

### Mathematics

In Mathematics this term, we shall be studying perimeter, area, volume and measurement. As well as learning the varied units of measurement, children will be learning how to convert them, use them in real world settings, use their measuring knowledge to find the area of different shapes and apply their knowledge to reasoning and problem-solving situations. In



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In addition, we shall be revising their knowledge of the four functions and topics that we have previously taught through the year.

### How you can help your child

- Look for opportunities to talk about maths in the everyday environment.
- Support your child and give them time to use mental calculations skills in real life contexts.
- Please ask your child about what they have been learning and encourage them to explain the methods they use in calculations.
- Help your child to learn the times tables that they are working on to prepare for our weekly TT Rockstars challenge.

### PE

PE this term will be taught on Thursday and Friday afternoons, the topics will be dance and gym. Please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school on these days. The PE kit that they come dressed in should be a white t-shirt, black shorts/trousers, and suitable footwear such as trainers or plimsolls.

### Homework

Homework will be given out on a Friday and is expected to be handed in on the following Wednesday.

We will also be setting short maths tasks to consolidate learning on Monday and Wednesday. These short 5-minute activities will be due in two days after they are set. It is important that homework is completed as this will help support the learning they have been doing in school. In order to keep homework tidy, it needs to be completed in their homework book. The children will also be given a list of spellings to learn each week which they will be tested on each Friday. Please support your child as they learn these.

### How you can help your child:

#### Termly Homework Project

The children's homework project this term is also based on our topic 'Hola Mexico'

#### ancient

Coming from, or belonging to, a time that was long ago.

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#### burrito

A Mexican dish that consists of a flour tortilla that is rolled or folded around a savoury filling (such as meat, beans, and cheese).

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#### cactus

A plant that grows in the desert and has many sharp points (called spines).

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#### chilli

A spicy dish made with ground beef, hot peppers or chilli powder, and usually beans.

**Maya deity**

A Mayan god.

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**Maya glyphs**

The writing system of the Maya civilisation.

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**Maya stelae**

Tall stone monuments made by the Maya civilisation.

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**Maya temple**

A place of worship.

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**Mexico**

A country in North America.

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**taco**

A Mexican food that consists of a folded and usually fried piece of thin bread (called a tortilla) that is filled with meat, cheese and lettuce for example.

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**tortilla**

A round, thin Mexican bread that is usually eaten hot with a filling of meat, cheese, and vegetables.

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