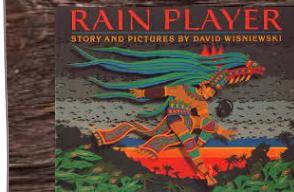


Spring One in Year 5

English

Our English this term, is based around the book 'Rain Player.' This is a story based on Maya culture about a young pok-a-tok player who challenges the God Chac. We will be writing dialogue between these two characters focusing on correct punctuation. We will also invent a new character for the book as well as working on our setting description which we will combine to create an extra page for the book. We will also be exploring how to convert a noun/adjective to a verb using the suffixes -ise, -ify and -ate.

We are reading...



Maths

In Maths, we will be looking at multiplication of up to 2-digit by 4-digit numbers and division of 4-digit numbers with remainders. We will then return to fractions to find fractions of an amount and to multiply fractions and mixed numbers by an integer. We will also be continuing to practise our times tables with weekly tests, and improving our arithmetic skills as often as we can!

Science

This topic will be continued over 2 terms and is based on forces. We will look at gravity, air resistance, water resistance, and the impact of pulleys, levers and gears. This is a very practical unit with lots of opportunities for testing our ideas: by making gyrocopters, becoming engineers to find the best material for F1 car pedals and using water resistance to create a submarine to fit a brief.

Art

In art, we will be using our knowledge of the Maya writing system to help us create prints using traditional patterns. We will first learn about relief printing and how these are made before testing out different mediums and methods to get the best results. Using glyphs, we will design a stelae style stamp with our names in Mayan. This will also help us work on our pencil and pressure control to achieve accurate patterns.



Later in the term, we will be doing explanation writing based on how chocolate is made – linked to our work on the Maya. We may even get a chance to create our own chocolate bars – if our instructions are good enough of course! We will be practising using parenthesis to add extra information e.g. brackets and commas as well as using colons to start a list.

History

Were the Maya the most important Stone Age civilisation?

We will start by looking at where the Maya lived in the world and place them on a timeline. We will learn about what life would have been like and then create a diary entry from the perspective of a Maya - hopefully no-one gets sacrificed! We will become historians and investigate what different types of sources there are. We will also look at their writing systems, their hierarchy of power and some of their significant individuals as well as the importance of trade. Of course we can't forget about the Maya use of the cacao bean for currency and as the origin of hot chocolate.

PSHCE

In PSHCE, we are continuing to work on our Pol-Ed topic, 'Keeping Safe'. The children will be discussing deep fakes, money risks, drugs, how the important people in their lives keep them safe, and understanding what media literacy is. These topics are essential to becoming a well-rounded citizen.

DT

In DT, we are doing food technology. We will be learning how food gets from a farm to our plate, specifically where beef comes from and the 'five freedoms' involved in beef cattle welfare. We will investigate what healthy food is by looking at nutritional information and use our findings to adapt and make a healthy version of spaghetti Bolognese - we will do a vegetarian option for those who don't eat beef.

Computing

This term in IT, we will be learning about coding. We will find out what binary code is, how to write numbers in binary as well as decode numbers. We will look at the alphabet in binary code and use this to make our name in binary in the form of a bracelet. We will learn how to view page source which uncovers the code of a webpage as well as having a go at the basics of Python and Java in game form. We will also continue with online safety, which is important as they start to use technology more at home independently.

Music

This term in music, we will use the festival Holi, to inspire us in different ways: to visualise music as a colour, to create a graphic score and vocal composition in response to a picture and to work as a group to perform a piece of music.

PE

On Tuesdays we are going to Ashford school to complete our swimming lessons, so please do remember to send them in with appropriate gear, loose fitting but warm clothing is good for when they get out of the pool, especially as the weather may get very cold this term. In school on Wednesdays we are doing netball/basketball and will be working on their passing, gameplay and tactical manoeuvres.

RE

In RE, our big question is: What matters most to Christians and Humanists? In this unit we will learn what humanists are and how their beliefs compare with Christians, focusing on how both are guided to live as a good person. We may even have a visit from a Humanist!