



Fleet Primary School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to back to school! I hope you enjoyed the winter holiday and are feeling rested and ready for another jam-packed term.

Our topic this term is 'How Civilised!', a historical topic taking us back in time and across the water to Central America during the Aztec and Mayan periods. We have so many exciting things to learn about, including learning the history of chocolate!

Our 'How civilised!' topic combines History and Geography in a really exciting way. We will be finding out about the chronology of the ancient Aztec and Mayan tribes. We will learn about similarities between cultures and key differences in how people lived their lives then, in comparison to now. We will explore key figures who have researched these civilisations and see how these may answer questions we have. We will be developing our knowledge of a different continent and climate to our own.

In English, we are learning about Mayan myths, starting with 'The Chocolate Tree'. We will explore themes, setting, character and events through drama and role play. We will learn what makes an exciting myth and use this knowledge to structure and write our own imaginative Mayan myths. We will be using this topic to inspire us in our poetry writing. Alongside this we will be looking at a variety of non-chronological reports and writing our own based on our topic.

In Maths, we will continue to follow the National Mathematics Framework, building on understanding of written methods of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, so that the children can solve problems using larger numbers and multiple steps. We will be working hard on our application of knowledge to problems in different contexts. The children will be doing regular fluency tasks to support their recall of strategies and methods.

We are developing our cross curricular approach this term and combining lots of our learning in sessions together- Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths- STEAM.

We will be looking at 'Animals, including humans' and 'Evolution'. We will explore how our understanding of the human body has changed over time. We will look at bodily functions, looking in detail at the circulatory system, digestive system and the importance of a healthy diet and lifestyle. Our Art and DT focus will be strongly linked with our Science learning based on the human body and PSHE. The children will create a sculpture, which incorporates our cross curricular learning. The children will also be cooking- making their own chocolate, chimichurri potatoes and corn tortillas.

In Music this term, the children will be learning songs that relate to the Aztecs and Mayans for our class assembly. They will be developing their composition skills and knowledge of musical notation.

In computing lessons the children will be working on creating their own stop motion animations and will be exploring our topics using virtual reality headsets. This work will be supported by a trip to the CLC later in the term.

In Religious Education we will be exploring the religion of Hinduism. We will be finding out about the festivals of Diwali and Holi. In P.S.H.E we will be thinking about how drugs can be used with both positive and negative consequences. We will also be learning about different emotions and how our bodies respond to them. We will consider different ways to manage our emotions, including anxiety and understanding.

In P.E. children will be doing games with their coach. They will also be continuing to develop their coordination skills and balance skills in other PE sessions. Home learning is ongoing in year 6. Please help your child to remember to bring their home learning journal in every week and continue to support your child. The children are still expected to read at home, a minimum of 4 times a week. This should be acknowledged by signing in reading diaries.

Year 6 will have great opportunities of support from several adults this term, in and out of the usual classroom hours. Please support your children by enabling them to access any support provided.

Some important dates

17th -21st February- Half term

27th February- Year 6 Class tea (helpers needed please)

28th February- Year 6 Class Assembly

I will send a letter detailing trips nearer the time. Any offers of help will be greatly appreciated.

If you would like to discuss anything with me, please do not hesitate to contact me or come in for an informal chat after school.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

Oona Matheson & the Year 6 team

