



Year 5 Autumn 1

How did the power structures of the Maya and Aztec civilisations differ?

What was the impact of the Spanish conquest on both civilisations?

Where did the Maya and Aztecs live?

Curriculum Letter

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new school year and to Year 5. I do hope you had a fantastic summer! I am so excited for the year ahead with this lovely class! Our topic for this half term is all about the Maya Civilization and the Aztec empire where we will look at where they lived as well as the history of their cultures and their declines.

Supporting learning at home:

- Encourage your child to read every day. We would love children to access a range of genres in their reading at home, including poetry, non-fiction and fiction. It would be wonderful if children could visit the library and research more about the Maya civilization and the Aztec Empire, to further develop their understanding of the topic. Remember our reading initiative too, 6 books to read before you leave Y5! These can be shared as a family at home for read with the children.
- Support and encourage your child to learn their spellings each week; little and often is best. The children will bring their spellings books home with new spellings weekly. They will be tested in class every Tuesday.
- Support and encourage your child to be independent with their reading and also their homework each week.
- Please encourage children to take pride in their appearance by wearing correct school uniform. Hair bands should be black, white or red. Nail varnish is not permitted. Shoes should be smart and completely black. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Homework:

Homework will go out on a Thursday and be returned to school the following Tuesday. Please encourage children to be independent when completing homework. In Year 5 our homework will be:

- Reading at home every day, recorded in reading diaries. Children can record their reading themselves, but an adult at home must sign the child's diary to acknowledge this.
- 1 piece of Maths from Scofield and Simms book
- 1 piece of English from CGP reading comprehension books
- Weekly spellings. Set on Thursday and tested on Tuesday. Children can practise in their spelling books that go home with them

Dates for the Diary

- Thursday 18th September – Maya explorer workshop
- Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd October – Parents' meetings
- Friday 24th October – INSET Day
- Tuesday 4th November – Swimming for Year 5 begins
- Friday 7th November – Cadbury world trip
- Friday 14th November – Year 5 cake sale
- Thursday 27th November – Parent sharing event

Below you will find more information on what we are learning across the curriculum this half term. Please feel free to email or speak to me if you have any questions or worries. You can either speak to me on the door or via the Year 5 email (year5@barfordstpeters.co.uk). Please note that emails are

not checked regularly throughout the day so please contact the office for any urgent messages. I will endeavour to respond to any emails within 24 hours.

Best wishes,

Miss Newman

English

Our English will link with our learning theme. Over the next half term, we will be focusing on texts such as: **The Great Kapok Tree, The Rainplayer and the Maya myth 'The Hero Twins'**. We will produce lots of different genres of writing relating to these texts, including setting descriptions, balanced arguments, poetry, diary entries, instructions and even creating our own Maya myths. We will also be learning and implementing lots of new grammar and punctuation into our writing, to enhance the overall quality. These will include demarcating sentences, proper nouns, fronted adverbials and inverted commas.

Should you want to support your children with their grammar at home, here is a link to BBC Bitesize, which has some useful videos/ activities to support with various GPS areas:

[BBC Bitesize KS2 Grammar](#)

Maths

In Maths this half term we will be focusing on two units: Number & Place Value and Addition and Subtraction. In the last week of term, we should also start looking at our multiplication and division unit.

Number and Place Value: We will be looking at rounding to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000, number representations, partitioning, negative numbers, ordering and comparing numbers and many other areas relating to place value.

We will also be looking at addition and subtraction, mentally and using 4/5-digit numbers and applying the formal calculation method to help us solve addition and subtraction problems.

When we start our multiplication and division unit we will learn about multiples, common multiples, factors and common factors.

Should you wish to support your child with these methods or concepts at home, here are some links to BBC Bitesize example videos (these links also provide activities for children to complete if they wanted some extra practice):

[BBC Bitesize Year 5 Place Value](#)

[BBC Bitesize Year 5 Number lines to 10,000](#)

[BBC Bitesize Addition and Subtraction](#)

[BBC Bitesize Factors and Multiples](#)

Spanish



¡Noticias emocionantes!

Exciting news!

Spanish with Mrs Del Rio will continue this year. The first topic of the year will be '¿Tienes una mascota?' which means do you have a pet?

Art



In Art this half term, we will explore different Maya imagery. We will look at light and shade using pencil and charcoal and make our own Mayan image. We will etch into tiles to then print our designs.

Science



Our Science topic is 'Forces'. We will be looking at what forces are, how they act on objects and conducting investigations to explore the impact and effect of different forces such as water resistance or gravity on different objects

P.E.



Our P.E this half term will be on a Wednesday and Friday. Wednesday will be with a sports coach and will be focusing on football. On a Friday we will be with Miss Newman, indoors, focusing on HITT

R.E.



Our RE unit for this half term is 'Who is Jesus?'. In this unit, we will be learning about how Christian's view Jesus and his importance to their faith. We will also look at how other religions, nor non-believers view Jesus.

Relationships & Health Education



Our PSHE this half term will be a unit called 'Protective Behaviours'. These lessons centre around themes such as the rights of a child, noticing out early warning signs and constructing and identifying out 'network' of supportive, trusted adults. We will also recap zones of regulation.

History/ Geography



In History we will compare the Maya and Aztec civilizations and how they were governed as well as how the Spanish Conquest impacted the end of both civilizations.

In Geography, we will look at where the Ancient Civilisations of the Maya and Aztecs were located in the world.

Music



In music, our learning is all about Composition notation through the theme of Ancient Egypt. We will think about singing in time and in tune as well as use hieroglyphs and staves to notate music that we play with reasonable accuracy.

Computing



Our Computing unit this half term is 'Computer Systems and Networks: Search Engines'. We will look at how computer networks, such as the internet, work and the services they provide. We will also explore how search engines work.