



Looking forward....

During this half term, Year 5 will continue their 'Maya' topic. We have really enjoyed immersing ourselves in the world of the Maya and exploring Mesoamerica.

As **designers**, they will learn about how to create their own Mayan weave. As **geographers**, the children will study a range of maps to understand the location and distribution of the Maya including the countries that made up Mesoamerica. As **scientists**, we will be looking at working scientifically and undertaking a series of investigations where we can observe, measure and test a series of variables. As **artists**, we will be using clay in an attempt to create Mayan ceramics similar to some of the ancient Mayan artefacts found. The children will also continue their music lessons where they will develop their singing skills in preparation for our Young Voices performance. Weekly, Year 5 will continue receive lessons in Spanish, ICT, PSHE and RE.

A reflection....

Welcome back to a new half term! We hope that you had a lovely break. Firstly, the Year 5 team want to say how impressed we are with how brilliantly the children have settled into Year 5. Their behaviour has been excellent, and their eagerness to learn has been wonderful to see! The children have impressed us with their writing and reading and it was lovely to see how much they enjoyed their VR Maya experience in the last half term. Their non-chronological reports about the Maya and their revolutionary civilization really blew us away.

This half term, we are continuing to study our topic all about the Maya. In addition to our core learning, the children will be looking geographically at the Maya, creating Mayan textiles, producing some wonderful Mayan ceramics, and improving our Spanish so we could survive and thrive in modern day Mesoamerica.



Special mentions!

Congratulations to those pupils who received their Star Learner of the Week award already this year!

This term, we would love to share some special mentions. Has your child had any fantastic achievements outside of school? Maybe they have been awarded their next swimming badge or have moved to the next grade in their music lessons. Please send in a note or ask your child to mention this to their teacher so that we can add it to the next newsletter!

Reading....

At Sitwell Junior School, we aim to encourage children to acquire a love of reading. Part of this requires the children to be able to read fluently, so it is really important that you listen to your child read every day. This only needs to be for a short time each day, as little and often is the best approach when supporting your child with their reading.

This year, we are continuing with Marvellous Me as a way of recording your child's reading at home. Through the app, you will be able to access a link to a form that should be submitted weekly before Friday morning. If you are yet to sign up to Marvellous me, please contact the office who will be happy to help.

In addition to this, your child should have login details to Reading Eggs, a computer based programme which is tailored to your child's reading ability. The site has a wealth of reading texts and questions for your child to work through. As well as accessing this in class, they will be able to do so at home, providing you with further insight into your child's reading ability. If your child has forgotten their log in details, the class teacher can access these for them.

Supporting your child at home...

All of the objectives which we will cover in our maths, english and topic sessions are outlined on the school website. If you wish to support your child at home, or to discuss their learning with them, please use the following link:

[Long Term Plans](#)

Reminders!

P.E. Schedule

The Year 6 children will have two sessions of PE every week, with PE days on Monday and Wednesday. We ask that all children come to school in their P.E. kit on the days that they have P.E. PE kit is as follows: white t-shirt, black shorts/leggings, black pumps (indoor), black tracksuit, and trainers (outdoor).

Twitter and Marvellous Me

If you would like to keep up-to-date with your child's learning in school, then check out the school's Twitter page. The account details are listed at the top of this letter. We also encourage you to track your child's learning on the Marvellous Me app.

Times Tables

We encourage children to practice their times tables on **Times Table Rock Stars**. These skills are so important and can be applied throughout maths.