

Forest Hall Primary School

Autumn 1 2024 Half Term Information Sheet

Dear **Y6 Cedar** Parents and Carers,

This information sheet tells you about the theme being followed for this half term and which subjects are being linked to it and those which will be taught separately. We hope that you find it useful.

Theme: Who were the Maya? The children will learn about the Maya civilisation. They will find out about how they lived and what they believed. They will also compare the Maya with other ancient civilisations that they have studied in previous years.

Cross curricular links:

History: Find out when the Maya lived and organise key events of Mayan civilization with a timeline. Learn about the different aspects of the Maya lifestyle and beliefs. Learn about the different achievements of the Maya civilisation. Explore the rise and fall of the Maya civilisation. Compare the Maya with other ancient civilisations.

Geography: Identify Mesoamerica on a map and label with key features, including biomes in that area. Explore the natural and human features of modern Mexico.

Subjects being taught separately this half term:

English: Reading and writing conquering the monster stories and non-chronological reports; using a five-part structure in writing with indented paragraphs; using semi-colons and dialogue punctuation; passive voice; spelling Y5/6 tricky words; spelling words with different suffixes; improving reading fluency and comprehension (focusing on retrieval skills and vocabulary).

Maths: Increasing understanding of number and place value; reading and writing numbers up to ten million; revision of multiplication and division facts up to 12×12 ; increase knowledge of formal calculation methods (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division); improving reasoning and problem-solving skills.

Science: Animals including humans - the circulatory system, how to have a healthy lifestyle and the importance of a balanced diet. Taught by Mrs Gibson, science lead.

PSHE: How we can keep healthy as we grow; the importance of a balanced diet and regular physical exercise; the benefits and dangers of drugs; how to look after our mental health; how to recognise signs of physical or mental ill health.

RE: Exploring religious diversity in our local area and finding out about a local Muslim community.

Art: Drawing – looking at how artists create powerful art that delivers a message.

French: Parts of the body, reading and writing short descriptions of unusual creatures and using the verb “avoir” correctly when writing descriptions. Taught by Mrs Tyas.

Computing: Digital literacy and online safety – learning about how to stay safe and knowledgeable online.

PE: Games with Newcastle United Foundation coach and swimming.

Music: Using the song “Happy” by Pharrell Williams as a focus, explore how songs and music can evoke different emotions taught by Mrs Tyas.

Class novel – ‘Final Year’ by Matt Goodfellow

How can you help?

Please support your child with their reading homework as it will help them to make progress in every area of the curriculum. Encourage your child to learn their spellings little and often as this is the most effective method. If your child would like to do extra maths work in addition to their weekly homework, they could improve their speed with multiplication tables or complete MyMaths tasks.

Class Reminders:

PE: Games with NU Foundation (Tuesday) and swimming (Thursday). White t-shirt, blue shorts and trainers for Tuesday PE. Swimming costume/ trunks and a towel for swimming.

Homework: Reading homework – your child needs to read for about 20 minutes at least five times a week. Maths homework will be set every Thursday and collected on the following Wednesday.

Spellings: Spellings will be given out every Thursday. They will be tested on the following Wednesday.

Key Stage 2 Objectives for this term

- To have all equipment needed in school on the correct days
- To read for pleasure every day.