



UNFORTUNATELY, WE CAN'T GO TO SOUTH AMERICA TO EXPLORE THE MAYANS!

# Year 6 Newsletter Autumn term

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## So what's going on this term then?

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Welcome back everybody! Your children are now officially the eldest in our school: the new Burton Joyce Primary role models! We hope you all had a wonderful summer and are looking forward to the year ahead.

Firstly, we will offer you a brief overview of our curriculum coverage for the autumn term:

**English:** Whilst we will cover numerous genres of reading and writing over the term, arguably the standout work will orientate around a study of biographies of Nelson Mandela and Rosa Parks. Throughout the term, the children will be exposed to numerous texts, we will unpick the qualities and structures in each of them and provide the children with the platform to produce high quality work of their own. As part of our English lessons, the children will continue to develop their grammatical knowledge. Whilst this is essential preparation for the Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPaG) SATs test, these sessions should also make a significant impact on the children's writing.

**Reading:** Teachers have already done a check with all pupils to ensure that they are reading books with an appropriate level of challenge. At home, we are setting the children the challenge of reading at least 3 times per week (one of which should be with an adult). The children know how to record this in their Reading Records. If they achieve this, their class teacher will sign their Reading Reward Chart.

**Maths:** Over the term, we will explore various units of work. This year we are looking forward to the introduction of 'Maths No Problem'; a modern programme of study designed to support the new curriculum.

**ICT:** We will spend time: re-enforcing the children's e-safety awareness; spend time researching Mayan culture; use Excel for spreadsheets.

**Science:** Our focus will be on the topics of 'Living things and their habitats'.

### **History & Geography**

Our 'umbrella' topic is 'The Mayans'. We will explore various aspects of their culture and discover what life would have been like for a Mayan. Much of our learning will become cross-curricular and have close ties with other subjects.

**R.E.:** We will spend time exploring stories from the Bible and the meaning of Christmas.

**Design and Technology:** We will investigate various different materials and will explore and experiment with these in relation to our topic on the Mayans.

**Art:** We will spend time exploring printing, textiles and digital media.

**French:** The children will enjoy a unit entitled 'Le carnaval des animaux'.

**P.E.:** Whilst P.E. is planned to take place on Tuesdays and Fridays, children must have their full P.E. kit (navy / black shorts / jogging bottoms and a white t-shirt) in school EVERY DAY. The children will cover various units including: tag-rugby, basketball and netball.

**P.S.H.E.:** Our first half term is spent looking at 'New Beginnings' and the second half term explores 'Getting on and Falling Out'.

Keep an eye out for occasional learning based updates on our school blog too, which will have been written by some of our children.

Below are a few other key pieces of information that parents and children will need to be aware of this term:

Homework will alternate on a weekly basis between maths and English and will be set on a Friday and be due in the following Friday. Maths will be completed on the My Maths website and English will be completed on sheets.

Spelling tests are timetabled to take place on Fridays.

Our autumn term trip will take us to Holme Pierrepont where the children will develop their awareness of elements of safety in various different scenarios. More information is to follow. Additionally, children who registered an interest in Bikeability will be spending time developing their cycling proficiency. Again, more details to follow shortly.

If parents are willing and able to offer their time to support reading in their child's class, please contact the relevant class teacher via your child's Reading Record. In Year 6, such support is more invaluable than ever.