

English

We will be studying a number of high quality short texts, such as the poems, 'The Shark' by Lord Alfred Douglas and 'Colonel Fazackerley' by Charles Causley. Through Collins Treasure House resources we will use these texts as the basis for our reading comprehension, grammar and punctuation and also our writing tasks. We will develop a journalistic tone in our own newspaper article and learn to include descriptive vocabulary in poems.

Maths

We will continue to revise and build on existing knowledge about number and calculation, building fluency with decimals as we extend our skills with thousandths. We will also develop our skills with statistics by working with line graphs and timetables. We will get to grips with protractors and learn how to measure and draw angles accurately and neatly.

Ancient Maya

We will be learning about the Ancient Maya, who they were and when and where they lived. We will be finding out about the gods they worshipped (and made blood sacrifices to), their clever number system and the different historical sources that have enabled us to know about this ancient civilisation.



Science: Earth and Space

We will be developing our skills of scientific enquiry and investigating the movement of the Earth, and other planets, relative to the Sun in the solar system; we will be using the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky; investigating how sun dials work; and using photographs as scientific sources to identify physical features on the Moon.

Design Technology: Food Technology: Chocolate

The Mayans not only provided us with a number system, but also with the invention of chocolate (although not quite as we know it today)! We will be evaluating current hot chocolates, starting with a delicious taste test and will then develop our own recipes by adding flavourings and toppings to suit our target market. We consider packaging and price in our own designs and make them towards the end of term for a final taste test.

We will also be taking part in the school's Science Week with lots of very practical, hands-on learning and a real chance to get stuck into developing our skills as scientists.

Key Vocabulary

Where?

Mexico Mesoamerica Central America
North America Guatemala Chichen Itza
Tikal Solar system

When?

Before 2000BC archaic period day night
Lunar phases

What like?

sweet bitter luxurious velvety rich
molten bright eye-catching gruesome
rotating

Who?

Ancient Maya explorers historians
Galileo Copernicus Ptolemy
astronomer Montezuma Causley Douglas

How?

melt mix pour blend investigate
research evaluate develop identify
invent rhyme describe rotate orbit

What?

chocolate cocoa bean temple pyramid
agriculture numbersystem civilization
planet Sun sundial Moon crater