

# The Maya Civilisation



The children will engage in a study of a non-European society that provides contrasts with a period in British history, the Anglo-Saxons. We are also very excited about our residential trip to Buckden House in October!

In **English**, the children will be exploring figurative language in poetry and will have the opportunity to write their own poems around the theme of autumn using their knowledge of similes, personification and alliteration. The children will read *The Explorer* by Katherine Rundell and produce a piece of narrative based on the text.

In **Computing**, the children will learn about the World Wide Web as a communication tool by learning how search engines work.

In **Music**, children will develop their listening and appraising skills and expand their knowledge of musical styles and the development of music throughout history.

In **History**, we will compare the Maya and the Anglo-Saxons and learn about the Maya civilisation. We will investigate how the Maya settled in the rainforest, their religious beliefs, homes and what archaeological remains tell us about Mayan cities. We will use primary evidence and examine theories into how the Maya cities declined.

Our first **Science** unit is Evolution and Inheritance. Building on what children know about fossils, we will find out more about how living things have changed over time. Children will be introduced to the idea that characteristics are passed from parent to their offspring, but that they are not exactly the same. They should also appreciate that variation over time can make animals more or less likely to survive in particular environments (adaptation). Children will look at evolution and Charles' Darwin's theory of natural selection, as well as palaeontologist Mary Anning's work with fossils.

In **French**, the children will learn the months of the year. They will also learn about informal speech and practise asking how someone is and vary their responses.

Our first unit in **PE** is football. Children need to be in their PE kit on a Wednesday and Friday.

In **RE**, the children will further develop their knowledge and understanding of Sikhism including worship practices.

In **Maths**, we will continue to implement the White Rose Hub Maths scheme (alongside other resources) which encourages confidence and competence in Maths through reasoning and problem solving. Our first unit, lasting 2 weeks, is place value followed by a longer 4-week unit on the four rules of number: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

In **PSHE**, the children will explore the topic of 'Me and My Relationships'. The children will discuss some of the problems that arise from friendships and explore the issue of peer pressure. The children will also learn about what constitutes inappropriate touch and explore different ways to be assertive.

