



**KIRTON PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**TERM 5 NEWSLETTER 2024**



**YEAR 6**

April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

We would like to welcome you to the start of our fifth term. We are really excited for the term ahead.

**Our Topic**

Term 5: The Maya Civilization.

This term we will be learning about The Maya Civilization. The children will begin by learning about the lives of the Maya today, before focusing on ancient Maya architectural achievements, their religion and surviving writings. They will also study the possible reasons why the Maya city states declined after 900 AD, looking at conspiracy theories and considering whether everything they read online is reliable.

**Maths**

In maths lessons, children will be learning about: fractions; formal written methods; measure; and statistics as well as different forms of problem solving.

It would really support your child if they were confident with their times tables. This would help them in all areas of maths. This term your child needs to learn the: corresponding division facts for the times tables up to 12 x 12; multiplication and division problems involving multiples of 10; and multiplication and division problems involving multiples of 100.

**English**

In English, we will be learning about: explanation texts, non-chronological reports, stories and newspaper reports.

In order to support your child, you could look at the different examples of explanation texts that are available and read some of the famous Greek myths, such as Theseus and the Minotaur and Jason and the Argonauts.

The spellings that your child will be learning this term can be accessed through our school website; it would be really useful if you could help your child to learn these spellings.

Please encourage your child to read at home every day and ask them questions about what they are reading at every opportunity. We aim to change books regularly.

Your child may bring a water bottle to school. Please ensure the bottle is clearly named and only contains water.

**PE**

Our PE day is on Friday. Please ensure that your child has the appropriate PE kit. For outdoor games, the children need plain black/navy tracksuit bottoms, a plain white t-shirt, a plain sweatshirt and trainers. For indoor PE, the children need plain black/navy shorts, a plain white t-shirt and trainers. Every item needs to be clearly labelled and in a bag that will remain in school every day. Kits will be taken home to be washed at the end of each term. No items should be taken home during the term.

**Homework**

Homework is set on a Friday and will continue to support your child's education. It will include weekly maths and English activities as well as reading, some spelling investigations and multiplication facts. If there are ever any problems about the homework, please come and see us as soon as possible.

**Important Dates**

15.04.24 – First day of term 5  
06.05.24 – May Day Bank Holiday  
13.05.24 - 16.05.24 – SATs Week  
23.05.24 – Greek Experience Day  
24.05.24 – Last day of term 5  
03.06.24 – First day of term 6

Yours sincerely

Miss Roberts      Mr Stanfield      Miss Wilkinson  
**Year 6 Class Teachers**

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**YEAR 6**

**HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING THIS TERM:**

- Make Maya Corn Tortillas
- Make Ancient Maya Hot Chocolate
- Maya masks activity





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## Maya Corn Tortillas



The ancient Maya people enjoyed making and eating delicious corn tortillas.

### Ingredients

(makes 20)

150g masa harina (pre-cooked white maize flour)

100g cold water

Pinch of salt

1 tablespoon of olive oil

### Equipment

Large mixing bowl

Cling film

Rolling pin

Frying pan

### Method

1. Mix all the ingredients together in a large bowl to form a workable dough. If it's too sticky, add a little more flour. If too dry, add more water.
2. Divide the dough into 20 small balls. Return the balls to the bowl, cover with cling film and stand in the fridge for 10 minutes.
3. Flatten the balls between your hands or roll into flat rounds to an approximate depth of 3mm.
4. Cook the tortillas in a lightly oiled frying pan for approximately one minute each side over a high heat.
5. Serve and enjoy!



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## Ancient Maya Hot Chocolate

Only the rich and noble members of Maya society drank this chocolatey treat. Is your palate distinguished enough to appreciate its rich, wholesome flavour?

### Ingredients

3 tbsp instant hot chocolate powder

250ml milk

1 tsp ground cinnamon

pinch of chilli powder

### Equipment

small jug

teaspoon

tablespoon

pan for boiling milk

### Method

1. Mix the cocoa, cinnamon and chilli together in a small jug.
2. Heat the milk slowly in a small pan on the stove (or in a microwave) until it is bubbly and frothy.
3. Pour the milk into the jug containing the cocoa and spices and stir well.
4. Serve and enjoy!

### Top Tip!

if you want to make your hot chocolate more authentic, then use cacao (dark chocolate) and pour it back and forth, between two mugs to make it frothy. Depictions on vases show us that this is what the ancient Maya did!





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## Maya Masks Activity

**Aim:** To design and make a Maya mask

Masks played a central role in Maya culture. They were made for a variety of occasions and purposes. In fact, they were even used to decorate temples. Wealthy Maya were buried with a death mask, which was intended to protect the wearer on their journey to the afterlife.

### Instructions

1. Use the template below to design a Maya mask.
2. Decide whether you are going to make an event or death mask. Use colours and designs to suit this.
3. List the equipment and resources you will need.
4. Write simple instructions to help you make your mask.



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