# The Mighty and Mysterious



### **English**

Our English lessons (both reading and writing) will revolve around the texts 'The Hero Twins' by Dan Jolley and 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell. These are incredibly exciting texts that we know will inspire and enthuse the children, and in turn will allow them to produce their best possible work.

### **History**

In history this term, we will be looking at the Maya culture of central America, selecting suitable sources of evidence and providing reasons for choices. We will learn to describe and summarise some of the main events, people and changes of this fascinating historical period.



### Art

We shall be exploring the art of the Mexican artist, Frida Kahlo.

### **Geography**

Our Geography work will centre around our study of the modernday countries of the Maya area, including evaluating their use of land, how and what they trade, and comparing this with the UK.

### **Computing and DT**

During computing lessons, we will be using an architectural programme called 'Sketchup' to create our own virtual 3D Maya pyramids.

### **Mathematics**

We will begin to revisit some of the maths covered last term, as well as focusing on percentages, decimals, fractions, geometry and measurement. Any practise and support the children can get with their times tables will be of the utmost importance, as these come into so many other areas (including fractions and telling the time).

French
We will be
learning how to
say different fruits
and vegetables in
French, as well as
different items of
clothing.

### **Science**

P.E.

Portland Road).

We will be exploring the properties of different materials, and conducting investigations in order to explore reversible and irreversible changes.

This half term, we will be developing our

(on Holland Road) and dance lessons (on

football skills and taking part in yoga lessons

### **PSHCE**

RESPERSE

This term we will be focusing on 'Keeping Healthy and Safe' by learning about drugs, alcohol and tobacco and how to look after our mental health and well-being.

Religious Education
During the term, we shall be exploring the following questions:
What difference does it make to believe in ahimsa, grace and Ummah?

Why is Easter an important time of year for Christians?

### TAKE HOME TASKS

# **Research and present**

- Write a diary entry for a Maya citizen what do they do on a typical day? This could also be presented as a comic strip.
- Explain how people in Ancient Maya times used to survive and live off the land.
- Research a recipe that uses foods which the Ancient Maya would have eaten. Have a go at making the recipe and remember to take lots of pictures!
- Find out what chocolate meant to the Ancient Maya. Maybe you could make a hot chocolate drink, Maya-style!
- Research other books by Katherine Rundell (author of our English text). Read other books which are set in a jungle.

## **Design and make**

- Produce a quiz, fact file or a board game on the Maya.
- Make some top trump cards on different Maya gods. Which is the most fierce? Which has the best powers? Which is the top god?
- Make a tasty treat based around the Ancient Maya, for example a Chichén Itzá cake or jungle biscuits.
- Make a diorama of an Ancient Maya pyramid/temple/village. Can you label the parts and what they were used for?

### Fortnightly home learning tasks

Children will be set fortnightly home learning tasks which they will be expected to complete by the following Wednesday. These will comprise of a spelling task, a maths task and an English based task, which may have a reading focus or a creative writing focus. We are attempting to develop pupil resilience and encourage them to take risks so even if they are unsure of an answer, we would like them to make an attempt. These tasks may be completed in the Google Classroom or on paper.

#### **Take Home Tasks**

A sheet of suggested take home tasks is included. Children can choose an activity from these to complete alongside their home learning. During this term, please try to encourage your child to complete as many of the tasks as possible in an imaginative way. These tasks are designed to be family projects where all members of the family can get involved with bringing our current topic to life at home. We would suggest that you try to complete at least two of these tasks during the term. You could also come up with ideas of your own.

The tasks can be completed/uploaded in the Google Classroom if you wish.

Thank you ever so much for your continued help and support with your child's learning.

PE will take place on the following days (please wear your PE kit to school on these days):

### Holland Road:

- 5 Sapphire: Monday and Tuesday 5 Amber: Wednesday and Thursday
- Portland Road:
- 5 Green: Monday and Wednesday
- 5 Yellow: Tuesday and Wednesday
- 5 Red Monday and Friday 5 Blue - Tuesday and Thursday





### INFANT SCHOOL A family of friends

School Term and Holiday Dates 2023-24

	П		Sep-	23				Oc	t-23				1	Nov-	23		Dec-23				
Monday	28	4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27		4	11	18	25
Tuesday	29	5	12	19	26		3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28		5	12	19	26
Wednesday	30	6	13	20	27		4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29		6	13	20	27
Thursday	31	7	14	21	28		5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30		7	14	21	28
Friday	1	8	15	22	29		6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29
Saturday	2	9	16	23	30		7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30
Sunday	3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26		3	10	17	24	31

	Т	Jan-24					Feb-24					Mar-24					Apr-24					
Monday	1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26		4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29	
Tuesday	2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27		5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30	
Wednesday	3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28		6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24		
Thursday	4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29		7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25		
Friday	5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23		1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26		
Saturday	6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24		2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27		
Sunday	7	14	21	28	$\Box$	4	11	18	25	Г	3	10	17	24	31	Г	7	14	21	28	Г	

		N	lay-2	4			J	lun-2	4		Jul-24 Aug-24										
Monday		6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26
Tuesday		7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27
Wednesday	1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26		3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28
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Saturday	4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29		6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24	31
Sunday	5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30		7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25	



Bank holidays (see details below) School holidays INSET day (5 in total)

First day of term for pupils

(includes 5 INSET days)

Last day of term

#### Bank and public holidays 2023/24

Number of statutory school days (total requirement 195)

Christmas Day	Monday 25 December 2023	Autumn 1st half	36
Boxing Day	Tuesday 26 December 2023	Autumn 2nd half	35
New Year's Day	Monday 1 January 2024	Spring 1st half	29
Good Friday	Friday 29 March 2024	Spring 2nd half	29
Easter Monday	Monday 1 April 2024	Summer 1st half	29
Early May Bank Holiday	Monday 6 May 2024	Summer 2nd half	37
Spring Bank Holiday	Monday 27 May 2024		
Summer Bank Holiday	Monday 26 August 2024	TOTAL	195 days