



Broomhill First School



Welcome to the Seabirds Class Newsletter

Our topic for this half term is:

Ancient Maya



Summer Term 1 – April 2018

Mrs Preston

Maths

As mathematicians we will be:

- Understanding place value using 4-digit numbers. Year 4 will also be using 5-digit numbers
- Mentally adding and subtracting single digits and multiples of 10 from 3-digit numbers
- Practising formal written methods for multiplication and division.
- Using times table multiplication and division facts to solve problems
- Multiplying and dividing 1,2 and 3 digit numbers by 10 and 100. Year 4 will also be using decimal numbers
- Ordering fractions and knowing some simple equivalent fractions
- Year 3 will also be reading and interpreting bar graphs and pictograms

English

We will be learning and enjoying poetry by heart and performing poems from memory to the rest of the class. We will also be writing some of our own poetry to perform, inspired by Ancient Maya.

We will identify and learn the features of chronological reports and will be writing a recount of a class event and a newspaper report.

Science

As scientists we will be continuing to study Forces & Magnets. We will focus on magnets this half term and look at:

- What is a magnet?
- What does a magnet do?
- Sort materials into magnetic and non-magnetic, draw conclusions and then use these to predict if an item will be magnetic or not
- Investigate the strength of a magnet
- Investigate magnetic poles
- Create a compass and a magnetic game

History

As historians we will be learning about Ancient Maya:

- Using a timeline to understand the Maya Civilisation's role in world history
- Marking important Maya sites on a map
- Learning about their Gods and beliefs
- Finding out what we can learn from the Maya city of Chichen Itza
- Looking at the number system

RE

We will be learning about Christian lifestyles and thinking about our own beliefs and practices.

PSHE

Safety: We will be expanding our knowledge of road safety and also learning about being sun safe, water safe and beach safe.

Computing

We will be:

- Refining our internet searching techniques to research the Maya Civilisation
- Using our skills in Word to produce an information sheet on Ancient Maya

French

We will be moving on to learning about clothes.

PE

Lessons will be on a Tuesday and a Friday.

We will be learning athletics skills and tennis.

Children will need blue or black shorts, white T-shirt and sand shoes or trainers.

These need to be left in school and will be sent home on a half-termly basis for washing.

Art & Design Technology

As artists and designers we will be:

- Creating a scarecrow for our roots and shoots garden
- Designing and making a Mayan mask
- Designing and constructing a Mayan style pyramid

Music

Mr Doyle, a specialist drumming teacher, will be coming in to teach Samba drumming.

Help your child at home this term by:

- Encouraging your child to be responsible for their own things and as independent as possible. Do they have their reading book and reading record in their bag? Have they taken out their earrings if it is a PE day?
- Encouraging them to remember to put letters, money envelopes etc. in the basket in the classroom.
- **Listening to your child read aloud as frequently as possible.** 5 minutes every day is more useful than a long reading session at a weekend but every little helps! Always initial their reading record and add an encouraging comment when you hear them read.
- Helping them to learn their times-tables ready for the Friday tables test. There will be one to learn each week.
- Encouraging them to look for patterns when learning their spellings and to use the "Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check" method they use in class.
- Checking in their reading folders for any additional letters or school work.
- Library books are changed on a **Friday**, please remind your child to have their library book with them.

Spelling lists and times tables for homework will be sent home on a Friday to be learnt for a test the following Friday. Please support and encourage your child to practise these every day.



Water Bottles

Please bring water bottles in daily.

