



# St Mark's CE Primary School

'Loving to Learn, Learning to Love'

## Year 3 Newsletter

### Summer 1



During the next half term, our History question will be **'Who were the Mayans and what have we learnt from them?'** In this topic, we will find out who the Mayans were, where they lived and how they have impacted our lives today. The children will have the opportunity to compare the lives of the Mayan's with other areas of history they have studied this year.

#### English

In this unit our focus book will be: The Chocolate Tree, which is a Mayan Folktale, by Linda Lowery and Richard Keep. The book links to the children's History topic and will provide them with extra knowledge about the Ancient Civilisation.

Even though The Chocolate Tree is a folktale we will use the book to support the children to write a non-chronological report with a clear introduction and reflective ending.

Whilst writing, the children will be expected to organise their report into paragraphs by grouping similar facts together. They will continue to develop their sentences by using a range of conjunctions and openers and by selecting boastful language.

Please continue to support your child at home by asking them to share the knowledge they have learnt, and doing research by either visiting the library or using the internet. If they do any writing at home please encourage your child to do their best handwriting.

#### Reading

*Thank you to those parents who listen to their children read every night.*

Please remember to **sign** and **date** your child's reading diary each time they read at home so they have a chance to win a new book!

Please also engage with your child and their family reading book, this is a really good way to promote a love for reading. We hope you enjoy them too!

Your child was given a library card last year. Visiting the library is another good opportunity to take out a range of different books they are interested in to develop a love for reading.

#### History Key vocabulary

Ahau, Cacao, Codex, Dynasty, Haab, Jade, Maize, Peasant, Sacrifice.

#### Maths

During the next half term, the children will be exploring and working with fractions. To begin, they will learn to count in tenths and then they will start making whole numbers, before moving on to adding and subtracting fractions. By the end of the term, the children will know about equivalent fractions, simplifying fractions and how to compare fractions.

Children will also need to continue to practise their **2, 5, 10, 3, 4, 6 and 8** multiplication tables and the related division facts as they will be tested on a weekly basis.

#### Science

In science this term we will be answering the question **'Why is Usain Bolt so fast?'** We will research all about the bones and muscles inside our bodies and how they work together, as well recapping previous knowledge about the types of foods we should eat.

#### Science Key Vocabulary

Muscles, bones, ligaments, joints, ball and socket, hormones, skeleton, organs.

#### P.E.

**P.E. will be on a Monday for 3CG and a Tuesday for 3W.** Next term the children will be focusing on bat and ball skills. For P.E. sessions earrings need to be removed and the correct PE kit needs to be worn. This includes their **blue school jumpers** and dark bottoms.