



## Hatfield Heath Primary School

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*Head teacher: Mrs Elisabeth Gelton*

January 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our theme for this half term is '**The Mayans**'. After the half term break, we will be learning about '**Climates of the World**'. A range of suggested activities has been sent home with your child's weekly homework for our current topic. If you have any questions about this, do not hesitate to contact me.

In English, the children will be learning about myths. We will also be learning to perform and create our own poems, and we will be writing reports linked to our topic areas. Pupils will also continue to improve their comprehension during our comprehension lessons and Book Talk sessions. Spelling will continue to be taught weekly and the spellings will be sent home for your child to practise.

Our Maths focus this term will be to recall multiplication and division facts for the 3, 4 and 8 times tables and identifying the relationships between them. We will also continue to become secure using the four operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will learn to collect, present and assess data using bar charts, pictograms and tables followed by work on understanding units of measure for length and mass.

In Science, we will be learning about the skeletons and muscles of a variety of animals. We will also learn about the importance of a balanced diet. After half term, we will learn about plants. We will learn about the function of different parts of a plant and explore what plants require for life and growth.

In Geography we will be looking at climate zones and biomes around the world. We will compare different biomes and look at the animals present in each of them and how they adapt to their surroundings.

In RE, the children will be learning about Islam in the first half term and then Good Friday in the second half term.

During the children's PE lessons we will be learning to play tag rugby and dodgeball. Following the half term break, we will learn to play basketball. Throughout all PE lessons, we will learn to work together as a team and develop our sportsmanship skills alongside the game specific ball skills.

In History the children will be learning about the Mayan Civilization. We will explore when and where the Mayans lived, their religious beliefs, the food they ate, their ball game and number system.

We will also explore stories from the culture. Much of our learning will link to the topic to make sure that the children have a broad and deep understanding of the topic.

During French lessons, we will continue to speak and engage in short dialogue between one another. This term we will focus on saying our age and describing what people look like. We will also continue to learn and recognise different words throughout the day.

In Computing, we will be using PowerPoint to create presentations and continue to develop our understanding of staying safe online.

In PSHCE, the children will learn about citizenship. The children will learn about working together with other people, how to share their views and opinions effectively and how to overcome obstacles to their learning. The children will also learn about relationships. They will explore how we show that we care about the feelings of other people and how we cope with our own fears and worries and support other people with theirs.

Lastly, in Music, we will be learning to sing a song about the Mayans alongside developing our knowledge and understanding of musical terms.

Thank you for your continued support with your child's home learning. Please continue to use the home learning sheet to record when your child has read with an adult. The projects you are completing with your children at home are fantastic and really add to your children's learning!

Children will continue to receive home learning on Fridays. We test the children's spellings termly, so please ask your child to revise spellings from previous weeks.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to come and speak to me.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Gavin Strickfuss