Castle Primary School
Aim High

Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn Term 2 2026

Aim High

Welcome to Year 5!

We hope you had a lovely half term break. This term we will be continuing our exciting learning with a Mayan theme. Below is an overview of what we will be learning across the curriculum.

English

We will be using The Crown to inspire us to write a speech to explain how to protect our planet. We will also be writing an explanation text about how chocolate is made, linked to our history and DT learning, and finally we will be using the classic poem 'From a railway carriage' to write our own poetry.

Maths

We will be learning about multiples, common factors and prime numbers. We will continue to build our knowledge of multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1,000. Our final unit will be fractions, adding and subtracting fractions and recognising equivalent fractions.

History

We will be continuing to learn about life during the ancient Maya civilisation. We will finish our learning by creating a final piece of our own choice.

Science

Our science unit is all about fossils and geological time. We will learn about what fossils tell us, how living and extinct organisms are classified and what happened millions of years ago.

DT

We will be learning about chocolate and how this links to our history topic of the Mayans. We will use the raw ingredients to form the basis of a chocolate product and the children will design their own chocolate drop to their specified taste.

Computing

We will revisit our E-safety learning to ensure we are always safe online. Then we will be using Zu3D in order to create an animated Mayan presentation.

RE

We will be exploring the meaning of interpretation and looking at the stories of the two births of Jesus. We will then compare the two stories for similarities and differences.

Music

We will be using the Sing Up scheme, focusing on learning to sing a sea shanty with expression, compose body percussion patterns, record using a rhythm. grid and finally keep the beat playing a 'cup' game.

PE

Multiskills led by a coach and Stomp dance.

PSHE

We will be looking at the risks of smoking. We will describe how smoking can affect our immediate and future health and wellbeing, give reasons why someone may start and strategies to resist any pressure to smoke.

French

We will be continuing our work on dates and then move on to vocabulary associated with a visit to a café.

Our Topic: The Mayans

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How you can help your child at home...

Small steps make a big differences!

Working together for your child's success

Be a reader...



- Please read and enjoy a book for enjoyment with your child regularly.
- Spend time discussing the content, such as the plot, characters and settings.
- Make predictions about what might happen next.
- Read aloud with expression (prosody) and fluency - accurately and smoothly.

Be a mathematician...



- When shopping, encourage your child to add up amounts, work out the change and convert pounds to pence.
- You can also support their learning by practising times tables and using numbers in everyday situations, such as cooking, shopping or measuring.
- Encourage them to talk about the mathematics they see around them.

Be a writer...



- If your child has enjoyed a particular day out, encourage them to create a scrapbook to recount what they did and develop their writing skills.
- Encourage them to think about using a range of sentence types, interesting vocabulary and accurate spelling and punctuation.

Be an artist...



- Explore examples of Mayan artwork and sculptures and encourage your child to create their own piece of art, inspired by what they have seen.

TT Rockstars!

TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS

Please support your child to spend 10–15 minutes playing on TT Rockstars on 3 separate days each week to keep their times table knowledge strong. This is really important for their learning in maths.

Homework in Year 5



- Each week your child will be expected to complete 3 activities on EdShed on 3 separate days before Friday. This will help them to learn the weekly spelling words and understand their meaning, as well as support their grammar learning.
- They will also need to spend 10–15 minutes on TT Rockstars on 3 separate days each week.

Reading at home



- Read aloud regularly with expression (prosody) and fluency: read accurately and smoothly, pausing at punctuation. Enjoy reading and library books together.
- Using Sora: download the free Sora app or visit soraapp.com. Choose the school / Hampshire collection and sign in with your child's login. Browse Explore and tap Borrow for ebooks or audiobooks. Ask school for login help.

Rewards



For all their hard work and effort, we will reward the children:

- Completed EdShed = 1 house token
- Completed TT Rockstars = 1 house token
- Both EdShed and TT Rockstars completed = 1 house point and 15 minutes extra breaktime on Friday.