

Year Six Autumn 2 Newsletter – Hola Mexico!

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back after the half term break. We have a lot planned before Christmas including an exciting topic but this time no dissections!

Our core reading in **English** this half-term is *Holes*, a book linked to our main topic Hola Mexico. The book will provide us with opportunities to explore many different genres in English including; myths and legends, instructions and poetry. Our grammar work, which will support our writing, will include; differences between spoken and written word, conjunctions, punctuation and modal verbs. Please remember it is important to still listen to your child read on a regular basis.

For **Maths** we will initially focus our learning on angles, learning different properties and how to use a protractor to measure. The children will also learn to calculate fractions, including multiplying and dividing as well as percentages, ration and proportion. We shall also be focusing on different measurements including length, perimeter, area and mass. Finally we will learn how to create our own pie charts using our knowledge of angles and properties of a circle.

In **R.E.** the children will be discussing the significance of Mary as the mother of Jesus through the question "How significant is it that Mary was Jesus' mother?" We will also be using this time of the year to remind us of the importance of Christmas to Christians.

As **Scientists** we'll be learning about light. We will learn how light travels and how it can be reflected and blocked. We will also learn about the functions of the eye and how they relate to 'seeing'.

In **P4C** we will be looking at questions such as 'Is it ever right to lie?', "Is sacrifice ever justifiable?". Please look out for our whole school P4C day, which will hopefully be on November 17th. Here the whole school will be involved in an investigation; it will be interesting to see where the children take us on this journey!

As **Historians** the children will be learning some of the history of the Mayan civilization, looking at their religion, historical sites and the legacy of the people.

As **Geographers** we will use google earth and google maps to locate Mexico and learn more about its different features.

As **Musicians** We will explore the importance of music to Mexicans, identifying traditional Mexican folk songs, creating our own instruments and attempting to write our own music.

As **Artists** we will use clay to create 3D models including skulls and stone carvings, decorating these with intricate patterns.

Important Reminders

Please note that we have P.E. every Friday, this half term our PE focus will be dance. Swimming will continue to be on a Tuesday where we will accompany Year 3 to Poplar Baths. **Please ensure that children have the appropriate kit on these days. Please continue to support your child by arriving at 8.50 am.**

Finally please don't hesitate to arrange a meeting to talk to any of us to raise any further questions or queries.

Many Thanks

Year 6 Team

Homework: This half term our topic is called 'Hola Mexico!' here are some ideas for you to do at home:

- Find out about Mexican wildlife and fauna.
- Research Maya hieroglyphs and symbols; write you're a short message to a friend.
- Research songs related to Mexico.
- Go to a supermarket and find foods imported from Mexico.
- Plan an imaginary trip to Mexico, how would you get there, where would you go.
- Make a typical Mexican dish such as guacamole, chilli or tacos.
- Design and build your own Maya temple using junk materials or sugar cubes.
- Make a Mexican skull and decorate it,

The children will be given English and math's Homework regularly.