

ANCIENT CIVILISATIONS



Year 5 and 6 - Spring 1

English

Our English this half term is based on 'Lost' by Ele Fountain. We will be learning how to:

- Write a recount to inform from the perspective of an Ancient Sumerian;
- Write a diary based on our class reader 'Lost';
- Write a section of Narrative based on our class reader;
- How to use the passive voice and subjunctive form;

We will also be making comparisons, giving reasoned justifications and working on our fluency within our reading sessions.

We will also continue our word study learning.

Please remember that your child should be completing a reading and SPAG home learning weekly.

Please also record any reading done at home on the reading bookmark (Especially, to enter our 'Reading Raffle') and don't forget that all children have access to SORA E library via Google Classroom.

Maths

Year 5:

- Place Value including negative numbers and roman numerals;
- Addition and Subtraction including multi-step problems;
- Measures including perimeter, area, volume and capacity;
- Geometry including identifying and drawing angles;
- Statistics and interpreting timetables
- Converting units of measure.

Year 6:

- Ratio;
- Scaling;
- BIDMAS;
- Translation and Reflection;
- Statistics;
- Co-ordinates;

Please remember that your child will have a short piece of SATS Companion home learning to complete every week.

We will be continuing to build on children's speed and fluency of times tables recall through mental maths challenges. All children have a login to **Times Tables RockStars** to practise their times tables at home.

Science

This half term we will be learning about **Forces**. They will learn that:

- Air resistance and water resistance are forces against motion caused by objects having to move air and water out of the way.
- Friction is a force against motion caused by two surfaces rubbing against each other.

Theme

Through our theme of '**Ancient Civilisations**' the children will be learning about

- The achievements of the earliest civilisations. **Ancient Sumer, Ancient Egypt, The Shang Dynasty and The Indus Valley Civilisation**
- When and where these civilisations happened and what else was happening in the world at the time
- A more in-depth study of the Ancient Sumer.

Don't forget, Year 5 and 6 will be going on a trip to the Ashmolean Museum to support their learning.

Year 5 will be visiting on 11th January 2024.

Year 6 will be visiting on 9th January 2024. They do not need to bring any money.

Please see earlier letter sent home for further information.

School Trip

As you may know, the Year 5/6 children will be going on a trip to the Ashmolean Museum.

Year 5 will be visiting on 11th January 2024.

Year 6 will be visiting on 9th January 2024. They do not need to bring any money.

We will be taking part in this trip to support our Theme learning on Ancient Civilisations and we hope that the children will enjoy seeing other interesting artefacts linked to their previous learning such as Guy Fawkes's Lantern, Paintings by Picasso and the Alfred Jewel.

Home Learning

All children in Year 5/6 are expected to complete 3 short pieces of SATs Companion home learning. 1 x maths, 1 x reading, 1 x SPAG. These must be completed by **Tuesday morning**.

Useful Information

Year 5: PE on a Monday (Outdoor) and Thursday (Indoor).

Year 6: PE on a Wednesday (Outdoor) and Friday (Indoor).

All classes will go to the Library on a **Monday**.

Outdoor Learning will be on a **Tuesday** fortnightly for **Year 5** children this half term. The rota can be found on our school website.

Theme Outcome

Theme Outcomes will take place on **Tuesday 23rd January 2024 at 9.00am** and **Thursday 25th January 2024 at 2:30pm**. Please indicate on the attached form which you would like to attend.



Helpful links for Children

[The Civilization of Ancient Sumer - Ancient Mesopotamia for Kids - Mesopotamia for Kids \(mrdonn.org\)](http://TheCivilizationofAncientSumer-AncientMesopotamiaforKids-MesopotamiaforKids(mrdonn.org))

[World History: Ancient Egypt for Kids \(ducksters.com\)](http://WorldHistory:AncientEgyptforKids(ducksters.com))

[Indus Valley Civilization - History for Kids | Mocomi](http://IndusValleyCivilization-HistoryforKids|Mocomi)



[Shang Dynasty - KS2](http://ShangDynasty-KS2)

[History - BBC Bitesize](http://History-BBCBitesize)

[Ancient Civilizations | Ancient History for Kids](http://AncientCivilizations|AncientHistoryforKids)

[Ancient civilization -](http://Ancientcivilization-)

[Students | Britannica Kids | Homework Help](http://Students|BritannicaKids|HomeworkHelp)

Ancient Sumer	Shang Dynasty	Indus Valley	Ancient Egypt
<p>The Ancient Sumer civilisation was based around the Euphrates, a Tigris River in Mesopotamia. (Meso meaning middle and Potamos meaning River.) The Sumerian Civilisation began as small villages but became famous for creating a larger chain of cities. This also meant that a 'class' system developed and Sumerians were able to take up many other job roles than farming. The Ancient Sumerians valued education but only boys were allowed to go to school. They also created the clock system as we know it today.</p> 	<p>The Shang Dynasty were the first Chinese Dynasty with written records. They came to power in around 1600BC. They ruled an area around the Yellow River Valley which meant they had rich and fertile land.</p> <p>The Shang Dynasty worshipped one 'supreme' God, but they also worshipped the Gods of the wind, sun, cloud and moon. People in the Shang Dynasty were not allowed to choose their own jobs, they were chosen for them based on their 'class'. They also discovered bronze in their area, calendars with 12 months and a style of chariot.</p> 	<p>The Indus Valley Civilisation were based around the Indus River, which runs through what we know call Pakistan, between 3300BC and 1300BC. Being near the river meant that they developed complex systems of controlling the flooding. They were the first people to create cities and to give them capital cities.</p> <p>They used mud bricks to create their houses, the first to have drainage systems and flat rooves for extra space. They were also the first to have toilets as part of their homes. The Indus River dried up which led to their decline.</p> 	<p>The majority of the Ancient Egyptian civilisation was placed along the Nile river. Egypt was ruled by Pharaohs and was rich in culture. They created a sophisticated writing system called 'hieroglyphs' and some amazing constructions, such as the pyramids and the sphinx.</p> <p>They worshipped over 2000 Gods and Goddesses, who they believed controlled the world. They were typically human with animal features.</p> <p>They also created:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paid labour • Going 'on strike' • Board games • Toothpaste 

