



# Y4 Classroom News!



Summer Term 2026

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## What are we learning about this half term?

**English-** We will write our own mystery narratives set in Ancient Maya civilisation.

We will then write our own instructions describing how to make traditional jewellery and recipes.

**Maths-** We will continue to explore decimals, areas and perimeters and solving measures and money.



**Science-** We will learn about how to make a bulb light up, investigate changes in bulb brightness and investigate which materials are conductors and which are insulators.

**RE-** Our topic this half term is 'to the ends of the Earth.' We will complete the narrative of St Peter as we look at the resurrection from St John's gospel and make links with St Matthew's account of Peter's declaration of faith and subsequent betrayal.

Please look at the 'Year 4 home learning page' for information on how to support your child's learning at home.

## Who were the Ancient Maya and how successful was their civilisation?

### Key knowledge for our history topic

Significant People and Places

Central America	Tikal	Chichen Itza	Palenque
Central America is a region found in the southern tip of North America, where the continent joins with South America. The Ancient Maya were one of the great civilizations located in this part of the world.	Tikal is the ruin of a great Ancient Maya city which may have been called Yax Mutal. It is located in a rainforest in modern day Guatemala and was one of the most powerful Maya cities. The Tikal Temple is 47 metres high.	Chichen Itza was built by the Ancient Maya in the Northern Lowlands. It was one of the largest cities and in the centre is the Temple of Kukulcan.	Palenque was an Ancient Maya city-state found in modern day Southern Mexico. It is smaller than Tikal and Chichen Itza but has some of the best architecture and carvings. Pakal the Great ruled here.

Significant People and Places

Ix Chel and Chaac	Great Ball Court	Pakal the Great	The Red Queen
Two of the many Ancient Maya gods and goddesses. Ix Chel was the goddess of the moon, water and cycle of life. Chaac was the god of rain. He could strike with his lightning axe and thunder and rain would come.	The Great Ball Court is located in Chichen Itza but ball courts like this one were found in cities across the Maya lands. Here they played and watched the game of 'Pak-a-Tok'. The game was a life or death battle.	Pakal the Great ruled over the city-state of Palenque. He ruled for 68 years — the longest in history of any ruler in the Americas.	This mask was uncovered in the Tomb of the Red Queen in Palenque. The remains in the tomb are thought to belong to Lady Ix Tz'akbu Ajaw, the wife of Pakal the Great.

### PE days

Every Thursday and Friday

Please remember to bring the correct PE kit - white t-shirt, black/navy shorts and trainers. Tracksuits can be worn when the weather is cold.

Our Year 4 class text this half term is ....



### Times tables test

In June, Year 4 will sit the statutory times table test. Please encourage your child to keep reciting their times tables!