



Northenden Community School

Curriculum Information for Parents



Class Year 4 (Ms Avanesian & Mr Jones)

Term Summer 2 2026

Theme How did the achievements of the Maya Civilisation influence their society and beyond?

THE BIG IDEA

This half term, Year 4 will be exploring the fascinating world of the ancient Maya Civilisation. They will learn about the daily life, beliefs, and remarkable achievements of the Maya people, such as their complex writing system, advanced knowledge of astronomy, and impressive architectural structures like pyramids and temples. Children will investigate how these achievements influenced Maya society—helping them develop a sophisticated calendar, communicate through glyphs, and build powerful cities. They will also explore how the legacy of the Maya continues to impact the world today, through modern understanding of mathematics, astronomy, and cultural traditions.

KEY CURRICULUM SKILLS



In **READING** lessons, the children will ...

- Continue to develop reading and understanding through inference and deduction
- Discuss words and phrases that capture the reader's interest and imagination
- Check that the text makes sense to them, discussing their understanding and explaining the meaning of words in context.
- Identify how language, structure, and presentation contribute to the meaning of different texts.



In **WRITING** lessons, the children will ...

- Read and write a persuasive text which uses a given structure linked to the text - **'The Barnabus project'**.
- Recap the use of coordinating and subordinating conjunctions and how they are used in explanation texts. (**Until I met Dudley**)
- Accurately use commas after and/or before subordinate clauses
- Use adverbial phrases of time, place and manner to create cohesive persuasive writing.



In **MATHEMATICS** lessons, the children will

- Recall and use multiplication and division facts for tables up to 12 x 12.
- Convert between different units of time.
- Recognise the properties of shapes. E.g. identify angles and lines of symmetry.
- Interpret charts and line graphs.
- Describe positions on a 2D grid as coordinates in the first quadrant.



In **COMPUTING** lessons, the children will

- To investigate how weather data is gathered and used to make forecasts.
- Create a video which will include weather forecast information.



In **Science** we will ...

- Investigate how sounds are made and how they travel to our ears
- Find out which materials are good sound conductors
- Suggest ways to change sounds



In **History** we will learn about...

- To explore the challenges faced by the ancient Maya when settling in the rainforest.
- To infer how the ancient Maya valued and used cacao by exploring historical artefacts.
- To describe the role of Maya gods and goddesses by studying images and scenarios.
- To develop recording skills through exploration of ancient Maya inventions.
- To evaluate historians' claims on the decline of the ancient Maya cities



In **French** we will learn how to ...

- Describe what the weather is like
- Say the four compass points and the days of the week



In **DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY** we will

- Be designing and making a helmet using strengthening techniques to reinforce the shell structure



In **MUSIC** we will ...

- Adapt and transpose motifs based on the theme of The Romans.
- Combine different versions of a motif and perform as a group.



In **PSHCE** we will

- Learn about healthy lifestyles.



In **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** we will learn about

- Find out what we can learn from religions about deciding what is right and wrong.
- Find out about how people can decide what is right or wrong without God's help.



PE lessons will take place on MONDAYS and THURSDAYS in our PE lessons, the children will ...

- Develop and apply their ball chasing and stance through focused skill development sessions, healthy competition, cooperative games and group Personal Best challenges.
- Please can you ensure that your child/children have the correct kit on that day.
Thank you.



OTHER INFORMATION

- Maths and Spelling Homework will continue to be set every Friday (Times Tables).
- The children have a weekly spelling test on Fridays.
- Practising multiplication tables and their corresponding division facts using TTRS.
- Our **Maya Workshop** is on Wednesday morning 3rd June 2026.
The Year 4 MTC will take place during a **two-week window between Monday, 1st June and Friday, 12th June**. The results of the 25-mark test will not be published but will be shared with pupils and parents in the end of year School Report.



YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILD AT HOME BY ...

- Reading with them and sharing in their learning on a regularly (daily) basis;
- **For further information regarding the multiplication check, please click on the DfE weblink: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiplication-tables-check-information-for-parents>**

Ensuring that homework is completed on time and to the best of their ability.