



WEST HADDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Term 3

Year 6

Welcome

I hope you have all had a good break and that your children have re-charged their batteries ready for 2020.

Last term was a very busy one with focus on maths and English in the mornings, and an indepth look into the other subjects in the afternoon. I'm sure that you are as impressed as I am with the children's understanding of the history of Britain from the time the Romans left to the time the Normans invaded in 1066. They also applied impressive technical skills when making their model mead halls during design and technology lessons. Keep and eye out for their tapestries too. Based on the Bayeaux Tapestry, these are still a work in progress but I have been really pleased with their embroidery skills so far!

Maths & English

The children have now sat their second SATs paper in test conditions– using the past materials produced by the Department for Education. Using these results we can begin to see how children will most likely do in the real thing. Above all, they give a clear indication of the gaps that we can work on in the coming months.

These papers were sent home with an overall percentage and the final grading using the grade boundaries for that year. Any time spent looking through these papers with your child is very valuable as it picks up individual gaps. You will also find this kind of dicussion helps children see where they have made 'simple mistakes'. Learning how to sit an official test an important part of year 6.

Topic

We start a new topic for West Haddon this year: The Mayans. This is the first time we have taught this and Mrs Hornshaw and I have been busy over the holiday researching the life of the Mayans. We have also planned a visit to the Pitt Rivers museum in Oxford, which runs a workshop looking at Mayan artefacts.

This is a fascinating topic looking at an ancient culture and civilisation. We will study the time and location of the Mayans and their everyday life, as well as studying the social structure of their society. We will look at their religious beliefs and practices, as well as studying their writing and architecture. Being the oldest children in the school, we will consider the environmental damage caused by the Mayan's farming practise of clearing the rainforests for farming, and whether there are lessons to be learned in modern times as we clear the Amazon rainforests.

Dates and Things to Remember

The year 6 P.E. day continues on a Monday afternoon, led by Mr. Rosevear.

5th March – year 5 & 6 trip to the Pitt Rivers museum in Oxford

11th May – 14th May – year 6 SATs week

Our Value for this month is

Honesty

Homework

Homework continues to be set on a Thursday and needs to be handed in on a Tuesday. Spelling tests will take place on a Thursday. Completion of homework is essential for year 6 as is the marking at home with an adult (as it provides another opportunity to fill a gap). The homework that we set is designed to secure their understanding of the topics covered in lessons and revisit earlier learning. We will continue with a focus on *reading, spelling, punctuation and grammar, and maths.*

Please remember to visit our school website regularly for useful information <http://www.westhaddonprimary.net>

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