

Humanities Week at Moorlands



January 2020



Year 3 have been learning all about volcanoes. They looked at the locations and names of significant volcanoes around the world, and 'Pacific Ring of Fire' where many active volcanoes are located. They have looked at different types of volcanoes and their features. Year 3 have focused on a country: Italy. They have completed mapping work and learnt about the physical geography; mountain ranges and volcanoes (Vesuvius, Stromboli and Etna). Looking back to the time of the Romans, they've read 'Escape from Pompeii', and learnt about the devastating explosion of Mount Vesuvius in 79AD. Children have used the Chromebooks to access 360 degree photographs of the ruins and remains of Pompeii. Finally, children have created posters and leaflets to explain and describe what happened to Pompeii in their own words.

In Humanities week year 4 have been looking at an overview of the ancient civilisations (Sumer, Indus Valley and Shang Dynasty). In addition. we have done an in-depth study on Ancient Egypt, looking at physical characteristics of the country and comparing it to Europe.

Furthermore, we have looked at artefacts and what they could have been used for, ordering timed events in chronological order, researching Egyptian Gods and how they compare to more modern Gods (Hindus). Also, we have looked at how they made mummies and have written a set of instructions.

In WN we have been learning all about Ancient Maya. We have learned about their Gods and the story of creation, completed maths using the Mayan number system, and designed our own Mayan masks! We tested our geography skills and have completed lots of mapping work too.





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During Humanities week, Year 5 studied Greece. We started off by looking at Europe and then focussed in on Greece. We discussed its mountains, coastline features and recapped on volcanoes along with the climate of Greece. We then compared an island of Greece with Lindisfarne (which we studied last Humanities week) and looked at the similarities and differences of their human and physical geography. We then investigated the different types of architecture in Greece and how the legacy of the Ancient Greeks still influences modern buildings today. This led up nicely into the History aspect of the week. We looked at the chronology of Ancient Greece and ordered events and placed it in a larger timeline of world history. We then looked again at the legacy of the Ancient Greeks and from that identified differences between ancient and modern democracy and then looked the Olympics and how they have changed over time. We compared the academic Athenians to the brutal Spartans and decided which one we would have preferred to have been. We then looked at the battle of Marathon and were amazed to learn about the messenger dropping dead after running 26 miles! We then completed a quiz about the legacy of the Ancient Greeks and looked at the mathematical and scientific influence the Greeks had and still have today. We compared religion today in Greece to

the Greeks followed in Ancient times and produced a fact file about one of the gods worshipped. Finally, we looked at Greek monsters! Phew! An amazing fun-filled week!

In Year 6 this week, we have been studying the ancient Mayan society. We started our research by locating the area on a world map and naming the ancient cities and increasing our geographical knowledge. We delved through the Google Earth map to see the current ruins in Central America through the various states. We looked at Mayan artefacts and learnt about the meaning of the hieroglyphics– we even had a go at writing in them. We wrote a detailed account of the chronological timeline of the entire history of the Maya civilization, to current times.

Year 6 had great fun making and taste-testing tortillas food. Furthermore, we learnt about the important Mayan buildings and structures.

As well as all this, Y6 have even found time to learn about the fascinating concept of the Mayan solar calendars and their detailed number system.

Overall, children deepened their understanding of the Mayan civilization.

