



# Spring 2026 Class Newsletter Mexico

Class Teacher: Mrs Ashton-Smith

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas holiday. Here is a brief outline of the topics we will be covering this term and some helpful points to note.

## **Themes for the term:**

**Spring 1 - Princes, Peasants and Pestilence**

We travel back in time to the dark and deadly world of 14<sup>th</sup> century Britain. The children will develop their knowledge of 14<sup>th</sup> century England. We will learn about life in medieval times and will be studying the effects and impact of the Black Death.

**Spring 2 - Off With Her Head!**

We will find out more about Henry VIII and how he changed the shape of English history. We will also look at other key figures during the time such as Elizabeth I and Mary Queen of Scots. Key historical events include the Reformation and the break from the Catholic Church.

## **Important dates:**

- Meet the Teacher - Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January
- INSET Day - Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February
- Half term - Monday 16<sup>th</sup> - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February
- Class photos - Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March
- World Book Day - Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March
- Mexico Class Assembly - Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March
- Parents' Evenings - Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March
- Easter Eucharist, Easter Eggstravaganza Activity Day and end of term - Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March
- INSET day - Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March

## **English:**

The units to be covered this term are:

- Persuasive speeches - the children will write persuasive speeches about an issue of their choice.
- Poetry - we have been given an exciting opportunity to enter a poetry competition!
- News reports - the children will invent and report on their own strange school event.

## **Maths:**

This term, we will be covering the following units:

- Multiplication and Division
- Length and perimeter
- Fractions
- Decimals and percentages

We will continue to timetable mental maths, arithmetic and problem solving activities regularly.

**Science:**

We will be learning and investigating 'Materials.'

**Relationship and Health Education:**

Careers, Borrowing and Earning Money, Physical Health and Wellbeing in the Media.

**Computing:** This term the children will develop their skills in the following areas:

- Game Creator
- Spreadsheets

**Geography:** We will be looking at climate and time zones around the world.

**History:** We will be studying life in Medieval England looking at the Feudal System, Peasant's Revolt, the Black Death and Magna Carta. After half term, we will be learning about the Tudors including Henry VIII, Queen Elizabeth I and the Reformation.

**RE:**

'Islam' and 'Salvation'

**Art and DT:** In DT we will be developing our textile skills by sewing a wall hanging. In art we will be creating detailed observational sketches of a Tudor portrait using a variety of sketching techniques.

**Spanish:** This term, the children will be learning about Epiphany, school subjects and opinions and Easter.

**PE:** Outdoor PE lessons will be taught by Mrs Burbidge on Thursdays, who will be delivering badminton and volleyball. Indoor PE lessons will be taught on a Tuesday morning by myself. We will be doing gymnastics and then Tudor dance. Please ensure that children's PE kits are brought in on a Monday morning. They will remain in school all week and will then come home to be washed on a Friday. All kit must be clearly named, long hair must be tied back and earrings must be removed for PE sessions. Children should have PE shirts, shorts, outdoor shoes, long trousers and jumper or tracksuit for outdoors in their PE kits.

**Homework:**

- **Reading logs:** Please ensure your child reads to you or independently at least three times a week and this is signed and dated. This will form an important part of my assessment for reading and dialogue between home and school. Reading logs will be checked daily. Please encourage your children to complete Accelerated Readers quizzes when reading books are completed.
- **Weekly spellings:** These will be set each Monday and tested on the following Monday. We will continue to share word lists on Google Classroom at the start of each week.
- **Maths:** We will continue to use TT Rockstars to support our times table learning. Please do encourage your children to practise times tables at home on a weekly basis - daily practice of even five minutes will quickly show improvements.
- **Homework:** Half termly homework grids will be shared on Google Classroom. Please ensure that your child gets into the routine of submitting one piece of homework from the grid each week.

**Important Information:**

Please note that we are a **nut-free** school. We politely request that you ensure your children do not bring nuts into school as a snack or in their packed lunches. This includes any food item that may contain nuts.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me via the class email address or by telephone.

Kind regards,

Mrs Ashton-Smith

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