



St John Fisher RC Primary School

Year 6 Knowledge Organiser – History – The Maya – Spring Two

What we will be learning	The Maya - Key Facts to Remember		
<p>I know:</p> <p>Lesson 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I know when and where the Maya civilisation began. I know that the Maya lived in different cities, ruled by different kings and queens. <p>Lesson 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I know that the Maya believed in many gods. <p>Lesson 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I know why the Maya built pyramid-like temples. <p>Lesson 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I know that Maya people told stories about creation (Myths). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Maya civilisation began long ago in Mesoamerica, which includes parts of Mexico and Central America. While the Maya thrived, Britain experienced the Stone, Bronze, and Iron Ages, as well as the Roman and Medieval periods. The Maya lived in different cities, each ruled by its own king or queen. Despite being different cities, the Maya shared many similar beliefs and traditions. The Maya worshipped numerous gods, each representing a different aspect of life. They believed it was important to please these gods through offerings. Offerings could be in the form of food, flowers, and sometimes even animal sacrifices. Human sacrifices were rare but did occur for significant events. The Maya were skilled in arts, including pottery, weaving, and architecture. They built impressive pyramids and temples, showcasing their advanced knowledge of mathematics and astronomy. 		
	Key Vocabulary and Glossary		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Civilization: A large society that has many people living in cities with organised governments and cultures. Pyramid: A huge building with a square base and four triangular sides, often used for tombs. Temple: A special building for worship and ceremonies, often important in ancient cultures. Calendar: A system for keeping track of time, showing days, months, and years. Hieroglyphs: Pictures and symbols used for writing in ancient Egypt and by the Maya. Agriculture: The practice of farming, growing crops, and raising animals for food. Trade: The act of buying and selling goods between people or civilisations. Ritual: A special ceremony performed for a religious or significant purpose. Artifact: An object made by people, often used by archaeologists to learn about the past. Society: A group of people living together in a community with shared customs and laws. 		
Key Knowledge: Impact of Mayan Civilization on the Modern World	Mayan Gods		Architecture – Chichen Itza
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Mayans invented a calendar that is still interesting to many people today. They developed advanced farming techniques, such as slash-and-burn, which help us grow food. The Mayan writing system, called hieroglyphics, influences how we study ancient languages. Their knowledge of astronomy helps scientists understand space better. Mayan art and architecture inspire current designs in buildings and paintings. 			