



St. Osmund's Year 5 - Summer Half Term Pre-Learning Tasks

To help you prepare for our upcoming half-term work it would be beneficial if you could undertake as many of the tasks listed below as possible.

Tasks are all linked to our topic of the Mayan civilisation and are designed to give you background knowledge on the themes we'll be exploring. This work will not be marked, but any work you produce may be used for a classroom display or as a starting point for discussion.

Making a Mayan Mask

Your task is to design and create a colourful mask inspired by the ancient Mayan civilisation. Mayan masks were often used in ceremonies and could be decorated with bold patterns, animal shapes, or faces of gods.

You can draw your own mask design or use a printed outline to decorate. Add colour with paints or pencils, and make it 3D by sticking on materials like feathers, card, foil, or sequins. Try to make your mask bold, bright, and full of detail—just like the real ones!

If you're feeling extra creative, write a short sentence about who might have worn your mask and why.

Have a go at making your own Sun Dial! (Science)

Your task is to use the power of the sun to tell the time—just like people did long ago!

Find a sunny spot outside and stick a pencil or stick upright into some soft ground or a lump of playdough or clay on a paper plate. At different times of the day, check where the shadow falls and mark it with the time. Watch how the shadow moves as the sun travels across the sky!

You can decorate your sundial with colours, patterns, or even Roman numerals if you're feeling fancy.

Have a go at discovering the meanings of these tricky words!

Reflection
Refraction
Opaque
Transparent
Stelae
Codex
Chac
Pok-ta-pok
Itzamna
Glyph

Challenge : Can you create a colourful poster or mini dictionary with these words? Try grouping them into categories like "Gods," "Writing," or "Beliefs" to help organise your learning!