

4B Class Assembly

Thursday 25th January 2024

Good morning and welcome to 4B's class assembly.

We would like to share some of the work we have been doing this year.

You have been listening to Promenade – Walking the Dog.

It was composed by George Gershwin in 1937.

He was a famous American composer of musicals.

We are using his music to learn how to keep a steady beat.

We have explored lots of different topics in our learning this year.

We will start with our first History topic when we learned about the Maya.

The Maya civilisation lasted from about 1000 BC to after 1500 AD when they were discovered by European explorers.

They lived in 5 Central American countries, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Belize and El Salvador.

People had different roles in Maya society.

The most important member of Maya society was the king. He was responsible for all the decisions about the village including whether to trade with or fight other villages.

Almost as important, was the priest, or Ah-Kin Mai.
He was the advisor to the king, so could make all the
decisions about what to do.

Then, we had the nobility and military leaders.
These were important families who had power.
They were loyal to the king.

Below them were the artisans – people who were responsible for creating new and interesting things. They were skilled workers and made everything from toys and musical instruments to bowls and storage jugs.

We also had the business owners who were responsible for trade in the village and also with other villages which had other goods they needed.

The next group were the biggest section of Maya society – the farmers.

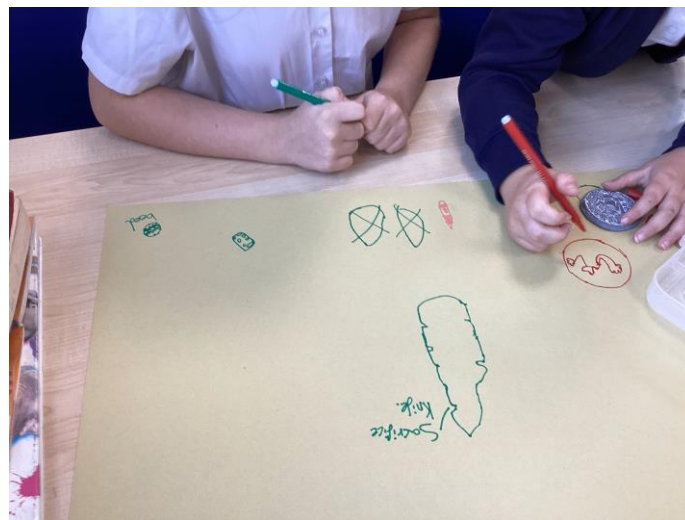
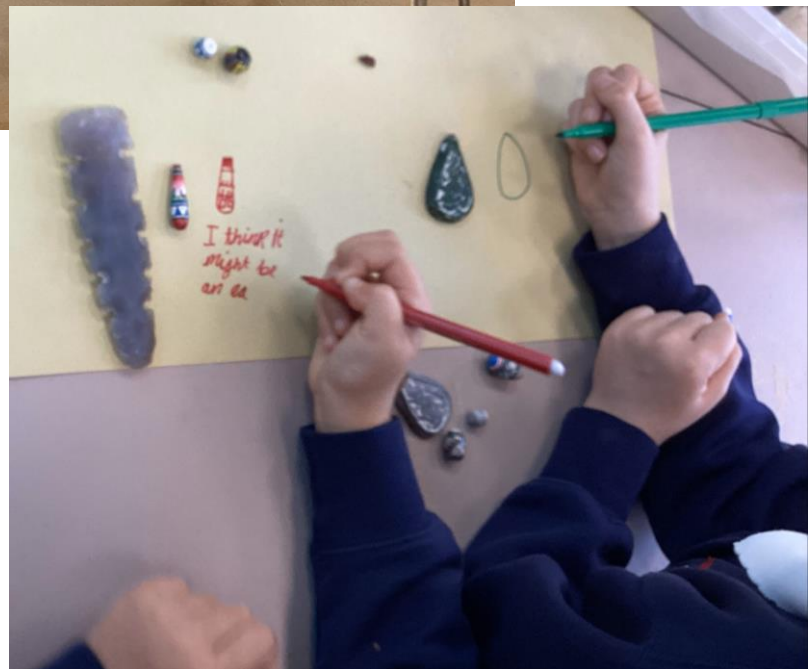
They lived outside the main village and grew the crops needed for survival.

The lowest group were the slaves.

These could have been captured from other villages or be prisoners from wars. They did the dirty jobs and were most likely to be sacrificed in religious rituals.

We really enjoyed our topic, and the highlight was our Maya day when we were visited by a Maya priest.

We witnessed a sacrifice, looked at artefacts and created Maya style pottery.



In Science, we learned about different animal groups.

We have also found out about different states of matter.

Everything in the world can be either a solid, a liquid or a gas.

In a solid, the particles are locked tightly together and this makes it difficult for them to move around. This means the material keeps its shape.

In a liquid, the particles are still connected, but are joined more loosely. This means a liquid can flow easily, and will take the shape of a container.

In a gas, the particles move separately. Because they are so small, they can fly around easily. This means we cannot usually see them, and they can spread all through the space they are in.

We studied the water cycle, which shows how water on Earth changes between all three states.

When water is on the Earth's surface, it gets heated by the sun. This causes it to start to evaporate and become water vapour.

Evaporation is when a liquid changes to a gas because some particles break away and become free.

As the water vapour gets higher in the sky, it cools down and the particles join together again.

This process is called condensation.

In the sky, the water vapour starts to form clouds.

When the clouds become too big or heavy for the atmosphere, they cannot hold on to the water inside.

It falls back to Earth as rain, snow, sleet or hail.

This process is called precipitation.

When the water is back on the ground, gravity makes it run to the lowest point.

This is called run off.

It will flow across the ground until it finds a stream, river, lake or the sea, and the cycle starts again.

We created our own mini versions of the water cycle by building a self-contained environment.

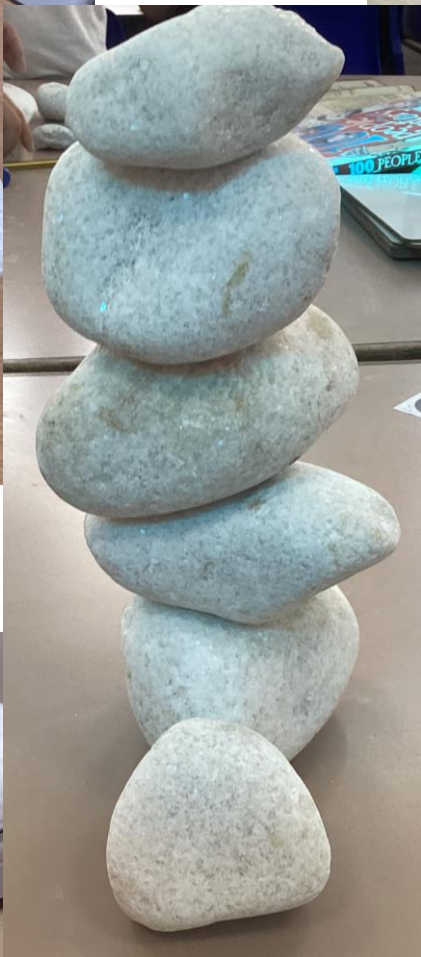
We part filled a jar with some stones and soil and added a plant and some water. Then we closed the jar.

We have seen that the plant produces water vapour when it breathes which condenses on the lid. This then falls into the soil and the plant absorbs it through its roots again.

We have produced some fantastic art work last term.

We explored the work of natural artists, like Andy Goldsworthy

As well as making our dreamcatchers, we made freestanding stacked stone towers.



In our English work, we have explored how language is used in poetry.

We read 'The Magic Box', by Kit Wright.

He stored all sorts of wonderful memories and experiences in his magic box, and we used this as an inspiration to write our own versions.

I will put in the box
The most expensive glistening diamond,
An expensive Porsche you could only dream of
owning,
And a magic pig flying through the night sky.

I will put in the box
Coins made from the rarest gold,
A bottle of dragon tears,
And spaghetti made from the finest pasta.

I will put in the box
The smell of pastizzi on a warm night,
A drop of water from the Mariana Trench,
And a hint of the spiciest chilli.

My box is fashioned out of metal and diamonds
and rubies,
Its hinges are cinnamon sticks softened over
time.
I'll drive my box to Scotland where I'll chase
seagulls and enjoy the beaches.

I will put in the box
A dream I'll never see again,
A feast I long to have,
And a magic book which brings your
drawings to life.

I will put in the box
A new song from your favourite singer,
A new species of animal found,
And a warm hug from my family.

I will put in the box
The soft fur of an animal you might not see again,
The magical touch from my two wands,
And the mischievous touch of a baby niffler.

My box is fashioned from ice, love and friendship,
With fun on the lid and secrets in the corners,
Its hinges are made with laughter and good
times.

I will build a big hut in my box,
For all my family
On the cold Winter's days
We can have snowball fights.

I will put in the box
The sound of a baby starling early in the
morning,
A waterfall in Lake Luna,
An explosion from Mount Vesuvius.

I will put in the box
A beagle with lovely soft fur,
A lollipop which lasts forever,
And Christmas in Australia.

I will put in the box
Happiness that can never be sad,
Sadness that can never be happy
And calmness which can never be scared.

My box is fashioned from diamond, gold and
silver,
With hearts and secrets on the top.
Its hinges are the ankles of angels.

I will put in the box
An erupting volcano on a Winter night,
A magic book to bring you drawing to life,
And a blue monster in a dark sinister cave.

I will put in the box
The explosion of thunder over the sea,
The splash of a waterfall crashing into a
river,
And a humming bird flying tree to tree.

I will put in the box
A young turtle from a huge ocean,
A hat from an ancient dad,
And dry, green moss from an old rock.

My box is fashioned from ice and gold and love,
With stars on the lid and planets in the corners,
Its hinges are scloppis knuckles