In Year 5, our Imaginative Learning Project for the first half of the autumn term is Mystical Maya. We will explore the ancient Mayan civilisation including temples, religion and daily life. Children will have the opportunity to make and try authentic Mayan Hot Chocolate and make Mayan jewellery and pottery. We will be reading Bella Balsitica and the Temple of Tikal, making links from the book to our project and English lessons. Topic links in Maths will include studying the Mayan calendar and number system. In the second part of autumn 1, our mini Imaginative Learning Project is a science based topic Properties and Changes in Materials. This will involve investigating the different properties and uses of materials. We will also look at how to separate materials, the solubility and magnetic properties of materials. After half term, our topic will be “Star Gazers”. Star Gazers will hopefully be supported by a trip to the ThinkTank Science Museum, where children will take part in a space mission and visit the planetarium. In Music, children will study The Planets by Holst and create a composition for a planet of their choice. Children will learn about our planet within the Solar System.

**English and Maths**

Most of our English work and some of our Maths work will link to our Imaginative Learning Projects. All children will receive an hour long lesson each day and a 15 minute mental maths session focusing on learning times tables and number bonds. We will be looking at place value and the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). Furthermore, we will deepen the children’s mathematical knowledge by providing them with problems and investigations linked to these topics. Children will also receive a daily English lesson of one hour with additional sessions that focus on spelling and handwriting. Children will have the opportunity to write for a range of purposes. The children also take part in a daily guided reading session allowing them to become familiar with a wider range of texts including: play scripts, myths, legends and traditional stories, modern fiction and stories from other cultures.

**Jigsaw**

As part of our PSHE curriculum we will be completing a scheme of work called Jigsaw. This covers emotional literacy, social skills and spiritual development – all with a mindfulness approach!

**Thank you,**

Miss Drennan and Mr Martin