

Dear Parents,

Over the next 6 weeks those of us in Year 6 will be following a unit of work called **AD900** that focuses on three non-European civilisations: The Maya, The Kingdom of Benin and The Islamic empire.

### ***The Big Idea***

During this unit we will be focusing on History.

- About the Maya from the buildings and artefacts they left behind
- How the Maya worshipped their gods
- How the Maya used glyphs for writing and counting
- Why the Maya empire declined
- What Benin City in West Africa might have looked like
- How to use different sources to find out about the Kingdom of Benin
- How the Edo/Benin people celebrate and worship
- What happened to the Kingdom of Benin
- Why the prophet Mohammad was so important to the Islamic civilisation
- About the achievements and inventions of the Golden Age of Islam
- Why the Islamic empire declined

All of the work we are going to do has been specially written to help your child reach the learning goals. Children will be reading, researching, writing, illustrating, working on their own and working in groups. We will be checking to see how well your child has learned through particular activities and asking children to explain their work, perhaps to you.

We already know the interest you take in your child's work. If you can, please discuss with your child the work they have done as the term progresses and let them teach you. To help you with this a knowledge organizer can be downloaded from the school website [www.wrotham-road.kent.sch.uk](http://www.wrotham-road.kent.sch.uk)

If your child has some work to research, please help them, but without actually doing the work. If you have the chance to further their interest in the ideas of this theme please take it, but your enthusiasm and interest is most important. If you have any comments or questions about your child's learning, please get in touch.