



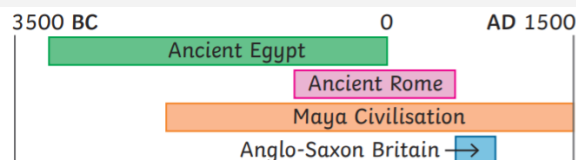
# Year 5 - Spring - History Knowledge Organiser

## What I already know...

- That ancient Civilizations impacted the world today.
- That different civilizations communicated through written form (e.g. The Egyptians used hieroglyphics)
- About the importance of the pyramids to Ancient Egypt.
- That different civilizations believed in different Gods.
- How to order events in chronological order.
- How to discuss the accuracy of historical resources.
- How to research key events in history.

## What I will learn...

- The Maya civilisation originated in Central America.
- Some cities still survive and are thriving today.
- The Spanish arrived in 15 AD and destroyed Maya Civilisation as part of their conquest.
- Written language was symbols called Glyphs.
- They had an extremely advance number system.
- The Maya civilisation believed in many different Gods.



## Making a difference at home

Can you research Mayan art? Have a go at creating your own art work in a similar style.

## Key Vocabulary

<b>Civilisation</b>	An organised society with its own culture and way of life, existing in a particular area over a particular period of time.
<b>Codices</b>	Ancient handwritten texts. Maya codices could be unfolded like a concertina. One text is called a codex.
<b>Glyphs</b>	A hieroglyphic character or symbols used for written communication by the Mayan civilization
<b>Middle World</b>	Earth - where the living inhabit. It was believed to be large and flat and resting on the back of a creature, such as a turtle or crocodile.
<b>Pyramid</b>	A temple and a focal point for Maya religious practices here offerings were made to gods. They were also used as gigantic tombs for rulers, sacrificial victims and previous goods.
<b>Ritual</b>	A ceremony, often religious, with set actions performed in a set order.
<b>Scribes</b>	People paid to write things down, either as an official record or for someone else unable to write.
<b>Upperworld</b>	Mayans believed a tree grew from the Middleworld. They believed its branches reached to the heavens (also known as the Upperworld).
<b>Underworld</b>	Mayans believed a tree grew from the Middleworld. They believed its roots grew down into the Underworld which was guarded by gods of death.



## Making a difference at The Merton

Whilst we are on our journey through The Americas, we will step back in time to explore the Maya Civilisation: how they lived, their culture and their legacy. The children will learn how the Mayans created beautiful writing using logograms and hieroglyphs. They will discover the fascinatingly inventive maths and calendar systems of the Maya, learning about Maya numerals and the Dresden Codex. They will study the impressive buildings/pyramids of this early civilization and how they were built. The children will find out about the religion and legends of the Maya, exploring the famous stories of the Hero Twins and the Lords of the Underworld through role-play.

