

Castle Hill Primary School Knowledge Organisers		Year 6 Spring 1 The Maya Empire	
Key Vocabulary			
Maya	The American- Indian people of Central America	Trade	Buying and selling of goods
Settlement	A place where people have come to live and have built homes.	Exchange	The giving of one thing and receiving another
reform	Changing something to improve it.	Temple	A building used for the worship of a god or gods.
civilisation	Society, culture, and way of life of a particular area.	conquistadores	Soldiers of the Spanish army that invaded the Americas in the 15 th and 16 th century.
crops	Plants that are grown in large quantities for food.	Noble	People who belonged to a high social class
ritual	A religious ceremony with actions in a particular order.	Priest	A person with duties and responsibilities in place where people worship.
sacrifice	To kill an animal or person in a special religious ceremony as a gift to a god.	merchant	A person who buys or sells goods in large quantities
labourer	A person doing unskilled work for wages.	artisans	A person whose job requires skill with their hands
hierarchy	A system in which members of an organisation or society are ranked in an order.	nobility	People who, with the king, rule the rest of the people.
monarchy	The royal family of a country.	craftspeople	People who make things skilfully with their hands
descendant	A person who is related to you and lives after you, such as your child or grandchild.	servant	Someone who is employed to work at another person's home
astronomy	The study of space, the objects on space and the universe.	slave	A person who is the property of another person and has to work for that person.

Timeline	
The Preclassic Period (1800BC to 250 AD)	Great growth of the Maya. Small villages evolved into cities. Hierarchy began to emerge.
Classic Period (250-1000 AD)	Maya culture flourished. City states began to take over smaller neighbouring cities.
Post Classic Maya (1000 AD onwards)	City of Chichen Itza became very powerful with strong economy and military powers.
Spanish Arrive (1500s)	Ships with Spanish explorers arrive. Brought diseases with them which killed many Mayans/.
Hernan Cortes (1519)	A Spanish explorer. Conquered the Mayans and began to remove Mayan Culture.
BC stands for Before Christ. AD stands for 'Anno Domini', which means 'the year of our Lord' in Latin. AD <u>dates</u> <u>indicate</u> the number of <u>years</u> or centuries that have <u>passed</u> since the year in which <u>Jesus Christ</u> is <u>believed</u> to have been born.	



Items Traded	
Food :	Corn, maize, fish, squash, potatoes, honey, beans, turkey, fruits and chocolate drinks.
Materials:	Limestone, marble, jade, wood, copper and gold.
Goods:	Paper books, furniture, jewellery, clothing, toys and weapons.

