

Last term St. David's class topic was the Ancient Maya civilisation. We researched where the Maya lived in Central America and how their abandoned cities were discovered by the Spanish Conquistadors. We learnt that they had a hierarchical society and that they believed that their king was chosen by the Gods. We also found out about their religious beliefs and the everyday life of ordinary people. Did you know that the Mayan children didn't wear clothes until they were 5 years of age when they took part in a special ceremony to receive their clothes? Did you know that Mayan men and women loved wearing headdresses? The taller the headdress, the more important you were in society. The children also enjoyed finding out about some of the more gory aspects of Mayan life such as the fact that if you were not a member of the nobility you were not allowed to wear feathers - if you did you could be sacrificed to the Gods! We also discovered that the Maya wore masks. Often these masks would take the form of the animals and birds they would have seen all around them in the rainforests. As part of our learning in Art, we designed and made our own Mayan masks. Can you work out which animals we have used as our inspiration?

