

## PSHE

Pupils will begin to develop their understanding of rights and responsibilities in the school. We will also consider some of the things that help us in school to learn and play well together.

As many of the pupils in Burrator are Buddies or Peer Mediators, we will give the pupils a chance to explore what a role model is and how they can be a good example to younger children around the school. This will also involve using and developing a range of communication skills.

Pupils will have an opportunity to identify their own personal gifts and talents.

## French

Children will spend this term revising vocabulary and developing new language, for example talking about themselves and their family, saying how old they are and counting up to 20. Activities will be very practical to encourage the pupils to develop their language skills.

## Art/ Design Technology

To link with the History topic this half term, children will explore the mask making skills of the Mayans. Through research, pupils will have an opportunity to design and create their own masks.

Pupils will also explore the technique of weaving, based on Mayan designs.

The children will also cook a range of food using Mayan recipes including tortillas and hot chocolate.

### St Mary's Catholic School Topic Overview

## Ancient Mayans

### Burrator – Autumn 2014



## PE

The pupils will participate in gymnastics sessions in our new hall. Some of these lessons which will be taught by a specialist coach who will be visiting our school. In addition there will be tag rugby sessions each week.

## Science

In Science, pupils will be completing a range of tasks including:

- Reviewing their understanding of light and shadow and exploring how light travels.
- Investigating how we see things through light entering the eyes.
- Exploring how light can be reflected and change direction.
- Exploring light reflection from flat, concave and convex surfaces and refraction when light passes from one material through another.
- Investigating reflections from a variety of surfaces.
- Being able to plan and carry out an experiment to investigate how shadows behave.

## Music

Children will listen to and evaluate how music is used to enhance atmosphere and develop the characters of super heroes in films. They will also be creating percussion backing music for the story of the Hero Twins.

## Maths

There will be a number of topics covered this half term including:

Number Sense – Working with place value up to 10,000,000. Counting in steps of power of 10. Understanding decimal places and value. Rounding, multiplying and dividing numbers including decimals. Converting measures.

Additive Reasoning – Adding and subtracting whole and decimal numbers. Solve problems which require answers to be rounded. Express missing number problems algebraically. Use and interpret line graphs, tables and pie charts.

**How you can help:** Ensure your child is completing homework tasks and practising their times tables.

## RE

Pupils will be exploring what it means to be the 'People of God' through the eyes of Moses and highlighting the need to follow God's law and by upholding the commandments, we uphold the will of God. The children will then be exploring how upholding the will of God involves personal choices and often sacrifices.

## St Mary's Catholic School Topic Planner

# Ancient Mayans

Burrator topic – Autumn 2014

## History/ Geography

Pupils will be studying the Mayan civilisation by finding out about:

- Mayan religion and beliefs
- How the Mayans civilisation developed over time.
- The buildings they left behind.
- Everyday life.
- Mayan food where their food came from.

In geography, pupils will be comparing the physical geography of Mesoamerica and the UK. They will also investigate the geographical features of Mexico and consider why it is so popular as a holiday destination.

## Literacy

In English lessons this half term, pupils will be completing a range of tasks including:

- Creating an information leaflet about Mexico.
- Writing a story based on the idea of 'The Tear Thief'.
- Producing a report comparing lives of ancient and modern Mayas.
- Writing a set of recipe instructions for preparing Mayan food.

**How you can help:**

**Read every night with your child, practise spellings and ensure your child is completing their homework tasks.**

## Computing

The children will be beginning the new computing curriculum, looking at the language and skills involved in coding and creating their own simple games and apps.

We will also be looking at filming and animation using the new tablet PCs and each pupil will be working towards creating their own animations by the end of term.