

## Maths

It is really important that children are secure in number and place value, being able to read and write numbers up to 10 million, and round numbers to the nearest 10, 100, 1000 and 10,000. Children need to be able to use place value to add and subtract large numbers mentally.

Children will then ensure they are secure using the column method for addition and subtraction before moving on to long division and multiplication.

We are going to be exploring how calculations can be worked through in different ways and that children are able to recognise which methods work best for them. Times Tables are going to be recited every day to help secure recall of facts.

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

## Computing

This half term, pupils will be looking at the issue of e-Safety and how to stay safe on line.

In addition, there will be an opportunity to develop the skills associated with animation and begin to create their own stop motion animations using a range of equipment including the new tablet PCs.

## PSHE

Pupils will explore how people around the world respond to natural disasters.

They will look at how famine, drought and poverty affect people around the world and how human activity can affect climate change.

Following the Christopher Winter scheme of work, pupils will look at Drugs education according to their given year group.

The objectives covered are:

Y5 - To explore a range of legal and illegal drugs, their risks and effects; to consider pupils' attitudes and beliefs about drug use and drug users; consider strategies to avoid drug use.

Y6 - To understand the effects, risks and law relating to certain drugs and substance abuse; to be aware of how people can get advice, help and support.

## St Mary's Catholic School Topic Planner



### Extreme Earth



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## History/ Geography

Through this topic we are going to be exploring how extreme events such as tornadoes, tsunamis, earthquakes and volcanoes are caused. We are going to be looking at the effects they have and ways in which to stay safe in these situations.

Children will watch video clips from 'Earth - The Power of the Planet' presented by Dr Iain Stewart, and 'Wild Weather' presented by Donal MacIntyre in order to gain a more detailed explanation of how weather forms effect our planet.

Children will be researching information about the Indian Ocean Tsunami of Boxing Day 2004.

## Science

The topic studied in science this half term is separating materials. Pupils will investigate this topic through direct teaching and practical experiments to:

- Looking at ways to separate solids
- Find out how filtering can be used to separate materials
- Understand what a solution is and how to use evaporation to separate solutions.
- Understand what can be dissolved and what is meant by 'saturation point'.

At the end of the topic the children will also have the opportunity to carry out a chromatography case.

## French

Pupils will this half term focus on developing French vocabulary associated with the family and learn to talk about their own family. We will then be learning and then using and applying numbers in different context and learning to talk about playground games.

## Music

We will be exploring the sounds produced by various percussion instruments and using these to compose an "extreme weather" piece of music. We will learn how percussion music is written down and record our composition using a simple format.

## Literacy

Children will explore and create haiku, concrete poems, free-verse and acrostic poems based on weather extremes.

Using video footage to bring events to life, children will use their knowledge of extreme earth events to write a newspaper report.

Using their understanding of extreme earth events and looking at how to extend instructional/information writing, children will write a survival guide for one of the extreme events covered within the topic.

**How you can help:** Read every night with your child, practise spellings and ensure your child is completing their homework tasks.

## RE

Sacraments – Pupils will explore in greater depth the Sacraments of Holy Orders and Matrimony. They will also gain an understanding of the symbolism associated with these two sacraments.

Advent – Pupils will have the opportunity to deepen their understanding of what God promised when he sent his Son. The ancestry of Jesus is also explored to enable a deeper understanding of the nature of what is meant by the 'Messiah'. Titles such as Messiah and Emmanuel will provide insight into the nature of Jesus as well as the role of the prophets who help to prepare us for the coming of Jesus at Christmas.

## Art/ Design Technology

The children are going to look at the piece called 'The Great Wave off Kanagawa' created by a Japanese artist called Hokusai Katsushika and then reproduce this piece in their chosen medium.

Children will be planning, designing and making interactive information boxes to support their learning through this topic.

## PE

Pupils will continue to develop their gymnastics with the support of a local gymnastic coach. They will also be developing their skills of netball and hockey this term.