

Maths

We are starting off with a week of inspirational maths to show the children that everyone is a maths person and everyone has the ability to achieve in problem solving and core skills. Venturing on from here the children will work through number and place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication, position and measurement.

Please see the attached sheet for the objectives being covered in both year groups.

It is essential that children are learning their times tables so that they have a rapid recall of these as this helps enormously working on other areas of maths.

Computing

Pupils will look at e-Safety again this term and the use of the internet for research. They will also be building on their knowledge of coding last year to design some of their own games using Scratch software.

PSHE

We will be looking at different trade links across the world and understanding the concept of global footprints. We will explore and understand why some people are hungry around the world, looking at the causes of famine. We will appreciate there are different moral attitudes to fairness and responsibility.

French

The work this half term will be a mixture of learning vocabulary such as numbers, travel and weather as well as looking at a Mali in West Africa (a French speaking country) and learning about its culture.

History / Geography

History - We are going to be finding out where the Kingdom of Benin was and about the time period we will be exploring. We will explore how we know about The Kingdom of Benin from AD 900 to 1300 and find out about the leaders of The Kingdom of Benin. We will also look at the lives of the people of the Kingdom of Benin.

Geography - We will start off our topic finding out where in the world Africa is and understanding that it is a continent not a country. We will study its varied landscape and how oceans, seas, rivers and lakes surround and shape the landscape.

We will be looking at the habitats of some of the most common animals living in Africa, and also the variety of social groups living around Africa. It is important that the children understand that Africa is not all about the images we see during Comic Relief.

We are going to take part in an Africa day which will be filled with story-telling and art. Of course our lead up to Harvest will also help us to focus on this fabulous continent!

St Mary's Catholic School Topic Overview

Awesome Africa!

Burrator Topic – Autumn 1 2015



Science

Over the course of this half term the children will work through a variety of mini investigations with a focus on how to plan, predict, carry out and record a fair test and then evaluate the results and ask more questions as a result of their findings. This is an SC1 focussed topic.

Music

Linking in with our topic and with Harvest celebrations coming up, we are going to be learning to sing 'Hearts, Hands and Feet'. They will explore playing instruments to certain parts of the song and compose music in the style of the pieces that they are exploring.

Literacy

Our main literacy focus for four weeks is looking at the text 'Lion Journal' by Carolyn Franklin. We will be studying the recount/non-chronological genres it uses and we will recreate our own journal following a chosen African animal.

We will be looking at water as a resource in Africa and how children have to help carry it long distances. We will be writing an information leaflet about this.

We will find out about the life of Amina in Malawi – writing two diary entries (before/after the tap) in first person as Amina.

Tap into life – Poetry writing about water.

RE

Prayers, Saints and Feasts: Know the meaning of the story of Martha and Mary. Know the importance of silence and listening to what Jesus asks us to do when we pray. Know that Jesus grew up in a Jewish tradition of prayer. Understand what a synagogue is and that Jesus prayed there. Know that the prayer of the Rosary is a meditative prayer which helps us think about the life of Jesus. Identify sorrowful and joyful mysteries.

Creation: Know that there are two stories of creation in the book of Genesis. Understand that creation stories are simply a way of teaching that God created the world and everything in it and gave human beings a unique place in it. Identify key features of the People of God. Understand and know that every human being is made to reflect God's love. Identify at least three Beatitudes and identify what they mean for us as People of God. Identify at least two ways in which we can live out the Beatitudes.

Art/ DT

The children are going to be learning about the Batik technique and then will research African scenes which they will then design their own to be reproduced on cloth using the Batik style.

We will also be cooking for a Plantain Party and a Vegetable Tagine for Harvest!

PE

High 5 Netball.

Net and wall games – learning skills to then take part in small team games.