

MATHS

We are going to be covering a number of topics this half term. We will be exploring properties of 2D and 3D shapes and angles. We will also be learning about position and direction using coordinates. Children will practise converting between standard measures and practise reading scales. There will also be an emphasis on teaching fractions, decimals and percentages. We will also look at algebra, probability and data handling.

It is essential that children are learning their times tables so that they have a rapid recall of these facts, which will help with their work in other areas of maths.

COMPUTING

This half term pupils will be building on their knowledge of coding learnt last year to design their own games using Scratch software.

PSHE

Drugs Education
Y6 and Y5 children will be taught separately. Information about the content for these year groups will be sent out to you nearer to the time. We will be discussing legal and illegal drugs, their effects, reasons why people may take them and strategies for resisting peer pressure.

FRENCH

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

HISTORY

This is an exciting topic which I hope the children will really enjoy learning about. Once we have visited Morwellham Quay to experience Victorian life, we will be looking at the life of Victorians, mainly from the perspective of children.

The children will be learning how the education system of this era was one to be respected and feared. The children will have their own Victorian Day where they will dress up and follow the lessons that a typical child would have experienced – including some of the punishments!

We will explore what life would have been like for the children unfortunate enough to have to work, as well as what homes would have been like for both the rich and the poor. We will also learn about Queen Victoria and her achievements during her reign.

St Mary's Catholic School Topic Overview BURRATOR – AUTUMN 2 2015 THE VICTORIANS



SCIENCE

We are learning about electricity this term and the pupils will have lots of opportunities to carry out practical work to develop their understanding. The children will be exploring the effect of different components in circuits as part of this practical work.

MUSIC

We are all about Christmas now! The children will be looking at a variety of Christmas music styles, responding to these before writing and composing their own Christmas song. All of the children will also be working hard to prepare for the Christmas Cantata.

LITERACY

Linking in with our topic we are going to study Charles Dickens' famous story – A Christmas Carol. The children will be focussing on how to portray characters and develop themes through their writing as they plan and write their own modern day version of the story. We will also be looking at two famous poets from the time and the children will aim to emulate their poetry. It is essential that children are reading every day and practising their spellings which will support their progress.

RE

Revelation – Pupils will examine the conversion of St Paul, looking at the impact of this conversion on him and on those around him. The children will have an opportunity to think how God reveals himself to people.

Advent – The ancestry of Jesus is explored to enable a deeper understanding of the nature of the Messiah. This will link this work to how we prepare ourselves during Advent.

Christmas – We will examine the role of the angels in the Christmas story and how we can be messengers of the Good News today. During the topic we will also consider specific role models of people, who have been messengers of the Good News in the life of the Church.

Diwali – the children will learn more about this festival, which is celebrated by Hindus and Sikhs. We will welcome a visitor to our school to share her experiences of this important festival.

ART/DT

We will be looking at the artist LS Lowry and critiquing his work. The children will produce their own picture in the style of this famous artist.

We will be looking at the traditions of a 'Victorian Christmas' and making cards, decorations and gifts that follow in that style.

PE

Pupils will continue to work with the coach from Arsenal Sports this half term and also continue with their High 5 netball sessions on a Monday afternoon in preparation for a tournament later in the term.