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Religious Education

We will continue to lead enquiry based RE lessons, with the children exploring answers to some key questions. Our learning will look at Christianity and the world view, Humanism.

In the first half term we will find answers to the question ‘Why do Christians call Jesus’ day of dying Good Friday?’, looking at the idea of sin, deciding what is right and wrong and sequencing the key events in the crucifixion story.

In the second half term, we shall discuss ‘How do people respond to poverty and justice?’ looking at ideas about the community and charity, global issues of poverty and justice and making links to British values.

History

This term our topic will be based on Mexico and the Ancient civilisation – the Mayans. We will discover when in history this civilisation lived and learn about Spanish explorer Hernan Cortes. We will look at daily life in a Mayan city and learn about the ancient sport Pok-A-Tok as well as discover why temples were so important to the Mayans, Mayan gods, and the use of sacrifice using a range of sources to evaluate and compare.

Geography

Maple class will be using maps and atlases to locate and label South American countries, the equator, and the tropics. We shall learn about the different biomes of South America and make comparisons between Mexico City and London thinking about human and physical geography.

**Maple Class**

**Years 3 / 4**

**Spring Term 2022**

**Mexico & the Ancient Mayans**

**Mr. Gachowicz / Miss. Claxton**

RSE/PSHCE

We will look at online and technology boundaries and what is appropriate and how to report concerns. We will begin to understand how our bodies and lives change over time, thinking about the changes in our bodies due to puberty and how to look after our bodies: keeping clean, diet and exercise and mental health. We will celebrate our uniqueness.

PE

We will learn about net and ball games through Netball, thinking about the types of throws and considering power and force and accuracy. We shall play invasion games through hockey thinking about space and defence. Learn dance, thinking about using a motif and sequence to fit a theme. We shall learn explicitly about inclusion and play games of boccia.

Science

In Maple class we will be learning about animals including humans. We will be looking at our bodies, healthy eating, and nutrition, and classifying foods based on their food groups. We will be using an inquiry-based approach, letting the children learn through their own questioning. They will learn that some animals have skeletons, and some do not and what the purpose is of a skeleton. Why do we have muscles? We will learn about the digestive system and the role and function of organs and the teeth in this process.

We will be learning about food chains and how energy is transferred from one species to another.

Spanish

We will learn some basic Spanish including numbers, greetings and how to say our age. We will learn grammar, the use of singular nouns and the possessive adjective *mi*.

Art/DT

We will look at and compare the work of Mexican artist and sculptor, Vager and Spanish architect Gaudi. Using clay and mixed media we will design and create a bust of an Ancient Mayan God.

In Design Technology we will create ceremonial animal face masks thinking about how we can use materials to create structure and how to mould or fix elements to our masks before analysing our final products.

Music

We will be looking at basic notation and play simple tunes on the recorder. We will listen to classical music by Mexican composer Carlos Chavez and identify instruments. We will make comparisons between traditional panpipe music and folk/pop songs. We will make sounds with homemade instruments thinking about dynamics and pitch and playing a simple tune in harmony.

Computing and IT

We will use the computers to research information thinking about the reliability of websites. We will type and edit work, import images and play with text type and size and learn about hyperlinks, presenting information in different ways. We will continue to learn about computational thinking, linking our explanation texts with the idea of algorithms.

Maths

Year 3

The children will be learning how to think mathematically and systematically to solve problems. They will be recalling multiplication and division facts and use this as they learn grid method for multiplication. They will learn about fractions, identifying and naming unit and non-unit fractions, find fractions of a set of objects and by using diagrams, recognise and show equivalent fractions.

Year 4

We shall learn more about fractions, counting up and down in tenths, recognising families of common equivalent fractions, and dividing and multiplying numbers by 10 or 100 before moving onto decimal equivalents of tenths and hundredths, rounding decimals to the nearest whole number and use our learnt skills to convert units of measure. We will understand the relationship between tenths and hundredths and the decimal money system, adding and subtracting amounts of money.

English

This term we will be linking our writing to our topic:

* Writing Non-Chronological reports based on the Ancient Mayan city of Chichen Itza
* Looking at the journey of the digestive system and writing into an explanation text
* Narrative poetry based on the Mexican celebration of the Day of the Dead

We shall learn about the features of these different text types and consider formality, tone and audience. Layout and presentation of information. Key vocabulary to include. Stanzas and rhyming couplets.

We will continue to have weekly SPAG sessions learning the year 3 and 4 objectives and linking to our writing, spellings including spelling rules and words from the national curriculum spelling list and guided reading sessions.