



The Bellbird Primary School

Soaring to Success

Year 4 Autumn Term 1

French:

We will be using the Rachel Hawkes scheme and learning to use vocabulary relating to celebrations, including birthdays and Christmas in conversations and songs.

Computing:

We learn to write simple codes, test and debug them. We will continue to learn about keeping ourselves safe online.

Art and D&T:

We will be looking how artist Diego Rivera illustrated the Mayan myth "The Popol Vuh", and creating our illustrated and bound version. The children will explore story telling through images and fine drawing skills. In D&T the children will design, make and evaluate masks inspired by Maya gods, exploring patterns, colours and joining materials together.

PSHE:

We will be studying how to have healthy relationships with others and resolve conflicts. We will explore how to discuss and accept differences between ourselves and others, how to show good manners and how to ask for advice and help themselves and others.

PE:

Our indoor sessions will be run by Premier Sport, and children will be creating dance routines inspired by the Maori Haka and rugby. Our outdoor sessions exercising outdoors, including taking part in adventurous activities using the school outdoor equipment and developing orienteering skills.

Music:

The children will be learning to play the recorder this term. These will be allocated to individual children and kept in school. Each week they will listen to and appraise a piece of music, and develop their singing skills.

Humanities

'Ancient Maya Civilisation

The children will spend this term learning about the Ancient Maya civilisation. They will be developing their knowledge of chronology and asking perceptive questions. They will identify where and when the ancient Maya lived, and compare this to European civilisations in the same time period. We will look at various aspects of their lives and culture, including their cities, sports, language, food and religion, and the impact of their contact with European explorers.

English:

We will be exploring the fictional novel "Charlie and the chocolate factory" by Roald Dahl, the information text "From Bean to Bar" by Andrew Baker, and the wordless picture book "Tuesday" by David Wiesner. The children will be adapting their written language and style for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences by writing both fictional and non-fictional texts over the term. They will develop their creative writing skills using illustrations as a starting point to write their own chapters of a fictional text. As part of our topic, they will write a chronological report about the process of making a chocolate bar from a cacao bean. They will be studying instructional writing, and will write their own set of instructions for making hot chocolate. Newspaper articles will be our final focus of the term, and they will write objective reports inspired by illustrations. Guided reading, class reading and independent reading will take place each week with a focus on comprehension and retrieval skills, and children will make regular trips to the library to source reading material for the classroom.

Mathematics:

In Maths, the children will consolidate their knowledge of place value up to and into the thousands, and learn about different number systems, including Roman and ancient Maya numerals. They will be rounding to the nearest 10,100, and 1000, estimating the position of numbers on a number line and ordering numbers. After half term they will be measuring perimeter and area. There will be a big emphasis on problem solving and reasoning in each lesson, and the children will be given the opportunity to use mathematical talk to explain their ideas. Each day the children will practise their times tables in a range of ways, supporting their progression towards a secure understanding of times tables up to 12 x 12.

RE:

We will be learning about Christianity, looking more deeply at the Gospels, the kind of world Jesus wanted to create and the example Christians believe He set.

Science:

Children will develop an understanding that electricity flows around a circuit and can be stopped using a switch and used to operate appliances. During the second half of Autumn term children will gain an understanding of states of matter i.e. materials can change state using heat; materials are made up of particles that vibrate to change their state.