As part of the several Spanish events at our school. The children in Year 3 organised a Novena de Aguinaldos for Christmas. As part of this they made their own shakers to use as percussion to accompany traditional Colombian songs and cooked shortbread for the whole school as well as parents. It was a lovely event and we received plenty of complements from the school community.

The Novena to "el Niño Jesus" (the Child Jesus) is an old Colombian tradition dating from the 1700's and is known as the "Novena de Aguinaldos." We pray starting on the 16th of December for nine consecutive days. The Novena is more than a simple prayer; it is a family affair. It is a wonderful way to get together with family and friends and enjoy the true meaning of "La Navidad."

It is a perfect example of how Christmas is celebrated in Colombia and is a tradition that has been passed down from generation to generation. A different family volunteers to host a night of the Novena to pray and sing together around the Nativity Scene. The Novena prayers are led by the children, "typical" Christmas carols are sung and instruments played, and then the party begins with a night full of "typical" Colombian foods, drinks, and music.



Throughout the year and through assemblies, we talk about Hispanic festivities focusing on traditions, religion, language and culture. The children have opportunities to compare it to the UK, their countries of birth or to places they have visited. This contributes to their understanding of the MFL curriculum and other foundation subjects making them broaden their knowledge of the world around them.



## Spanish Day celebrations

Cooking



**Piñatas** 



Collage Spanish Fans



Joan Miro Art Project



## Picasso Art Project





Research in Spanish tourist destinations

