

Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter

Summer 2017

We hope you had a restful Easter break and that this newsletter provides some helpful information for the summer term ahead. We are really looking forward to an enjoyable, successful final term with our classes.

Living Rainforest trip
Friday 5th May 2017



Information about the Curriculum



English

This term we will be writing non-fiction information texts, myths and legends as well as looking at traditional tales from other cultures about the rainforest. Through this, children will learn more about how to use paragraphs to organise their writing. We will also look at rhythm and rhyme in order to create and perform some rainforest raps in the last week of the half-term.

In the second half of term we will explore features of persuasive texts and will write letters to protect tribes and challenge conservation issues. Then we will look at instruction writing linked to our DT topic 'Making healthy sandwiches'.

Maths

We will start the term learning about different methods for formal multiplication and division. This will include the grid method and division by chunking. We will then study data handling, angles and symmetry to extend children's knowledge of shape, space and measures. We would be grateful if you could continue to help your child to learn their times tables regularly and looking at telling the time.

In the second term, children will explore formal column addition, and will continue to use a variety of methods, such as number lines, partitioning and formal written methods throughout the term so children have a number of strategies for addition and subtraction. Children's concepts of digital and analogue time and fractions will also be developed. This will involve comparing simple and mixed fractions and simple equivalents.

Foundation subjects



In **Science** our first topic will be 'Animals' and will involve grouping animals with and without skeletons and naming key parts of the skeleton. Then we will explore the main organs of the body and their functions and will link this to the need for good nutrition.



Our second topic will be 'Plants' where we will learn about the parts of a flowering plant and explore factors that affect their growth, such as light and water, through a series of investigations. We will also look at how water travels through a plant and the life cycles of flowering plants.



In **Geography** we will be looking in depth at rainforests. We will discover their locations and climates, layers, vegetation, animals, and natural resources. Then we will look at tribes and address the need for rainforest conservation. After our rainforest topic we will be using a website called 'Digimaps' where we will be using interactive maps to explore the local area.

Computing Our work this half-term will focus on communicating safely on the internet. In the second term we will then look at how to find and correct bugs in systems.



In **Art**, our theme will be "Patterns from around the world". We will be exploring natural patterns from plants and animals, and will then create our own stencils to create repeating patterns.

R.E this term focuses on developing the children's understanding of Buddhism and how Buddhists choose to live their lives. We will then look at Christian liturgy in the final half term.



In **Design and Technology** in the second half term, we will focus on exploring healthy eating and food hygiene standards, so we can design and make a healthy sandwich.

Music will be taught by Miss Crawford or Mrs Haines. The children will be learning how to play the recorder and read simple notes.

The areas covered in **P.E.** this term will include netball, athletics, cricket and rounders. Indoor PE sessions will focus on improving hand eye coordination through bat and ball skills, and preparing for sports day events.

In **French** we will learn words for the names and colours of animals, types of vegetables and visiting a market. The children will be learning this vocabulary through fun activities and games. They will also build their conversational skills with general greetings, expressing likes and dislikes.

General Information

Homework: Homework will continue to be given out on Thursdays for submission by the following Tuesday. It will include weekly spelling investigations and sometimes another piece linked to the week's learning. Abacus games will also be set weekly.

Reading a variety of texts is important even for the most able, and we would appreciate it if you would encourage reading and discussion of books at home. All books and diaries should come into school daily, and please ensure that children are taking responsibility for changing their books regularly.

Thank you for bringing in boxes of **tissues and glue sticks** last term. We go through them quickly - and would really appreciate some more!

Thank you so much again for all your ongoing support and encouragement. It is very much appreciated. We hope you have a great summer term.

Best wishes Ellie Whittall, Amy Winter and Hannah Crawford