

Class 5 Newsletter

SPRING 1 2023

Dear parents,

I hope that you had a wonderful Christmas and best wishes for the New year. Thank you so much for the Christmas presents that you gave me. You are very kind.

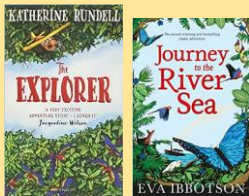
This half term, we will be focussing on our Geography topic, 'Why should rainforests be important to us all?' The plants and animals' aspect of the Science curriculum will run alongside this topic.

PPA Cover

We will be supported by Miss Southern, in place of Mrs Jones, for another few weeks. Miss Southern will work with us every morning. Mrs Barlow will be covering all day, on Fridays, when I take my leadership time and Mrs Barlow will cover my PPA on Friday afternoons.

English

The Explorer by Katherine Rundell



Journey to the River Sea by Eva Ibbotson

We will begin by using images of the rainforest to create some descriptive poetry. After this, we will focus on The Explorer to develop our story writing, with a greater emphasis on developing character in an adventure story. We will also use our guided reading sessions to investigate and compare the different characters in and across the two stories.

Working towards targets

- Basic sentence punctuation including exclamation marks, question marks, commas, apostrophes, commas for fronted adverbials and speech punctuation.

Expected targets

- develop characters through action and dialogue.
- develop character through description.
- establish viewpoint as the writer through commenting on characters or events
- create atmosphere

Greater Depth targets

- use paragraphs to structure the plot in narrative writing, showing changes in time, place and events
- use commas to mark phrases and clauses
- use dialogue effectively and punctuate it accurately
- Use a semi colon to mark boundaries between independent clauses.

Spellings will continue to be tested on a Friday. Please, can you remind the children to bring in their folders every Friday morning?

Reading Diaries

Thank you to those children who complete their reading diary and hand it in each week. Some children are regularly failing to hand this in. Please can you support your children in the completion of a written record of their reading, with the emphasis on a longer piece of writing once a week. This could be a character description, a comparison between stories, a book review, or identifying vocabulary and language features. I would prefer it to be more than just a re-write of the story.

Mathematics

In Mathematics, we will focus on formal methods of multiplication and division and continue to make links between the two processes. We will then complete our remaining fractions work ahead of work on decimals and percentages.

- Multiply numbers up to 4-digit by a 1 or 2-digit number using formal written methods, including long multiplication for 2-digit numbers
- Divide numbers up to 4-digits by 1-digit numbers using the formal written method of short division, and interpret remainders appropriately
- Solve problems involving multiplication and division including using their knowledge of factors and multiples, squares and cubes
- Solve problems involving all four number operations, including understanding the meaning of the equals sign

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- Multiply proper fractions and mixed numbers by whole numbers, supported by materials and diagrams

Times tables tests will continue to take place each Friday morning. As with spellings, please ensure your child has their folder in school on this day. Some children are struggling with their multiplication facts and we are using them all the time in maths lessons. Without this knowledge the children are at a disadvantage and are slowed down during lessons, often having to resort to the use of multiplication squares. If you know that your child struggles with this, please support them to complete further practice at home.

Geography

We are studying a Geography topic this term: 'Why should the rainforest be important to us all?' We will be studying this until Easter. Within this topic, we will develop our use of the atlas whilst learning about countries and capital cities across Europe and the wider world.

- Know what is meant by biomes and what are the features of a specific biome
- Label layers of a rainforest and know what deforestation is
- Know how to use graphs to record features such as temperature or rainfall across the world

Science

Our Science will focus on plants and animals, linked to our rainforest work.

- Know the life cycle of different living things e.g. mammal, amphibian, insect and bird
- Know the differences between different life cycles
- Know the process of reproduction in plants
- Know the process of reproduction in animals
- Create a timeline to indicate stages of growth in humans

Computing

We will be continuing to use the internet for research and collecting and organising data related to our Geography and Science learning.

Religious Education

In Religious Education, we will be exploring the lives of significant women in the Old Testament and looking at the Jewish festival of Purim. We are trying to organise a visit to the synagogue as part of our learning about Judaism.

Art/DT

In Art we will be looking at perspective, adding mood and feeling to piece of artwork, using a grid to transfer an image and creating a

camouflage background.

The stimulus for this work will be The Rainforest.

Physical Education

PE will now be on a Monday (Sports development) and Thursday (City in the Community). Please, ensure that your child comes to school wearing an appropriate kit on these days. Outdoor kit will be needed for both lessons, as they will take place outdoors. If the weather is bad, we will move to the hall for these sessions which means the children will need to wear pumps. If your child does not have a pair in school, please send them in with a pair which can be kept in school for future use.

Music

Our topic will be 'The Fresh Prince of Belair' following the Charanga scheme of work. We will analyse a range of musical pieces and use percussion instruments to accompany these pieces.

PSHE

Our Jigsaw topic will be entitled 'Dreams and Goals.' We will look at our aspirations for the short, medium and long term, as well as looking at the steps we will need to take to achieve these goals. We will consider a range of potential jobs and what they involve, thinking about our own motivations and how we can achieve our end goals.

Spanish

Following on from our work on greetings, numbers and being able to say our age, we will be learning the days of the week and months of the year. This will lead us to be able to have a conversation about our name, age and date of birth.

Education Sunday

Year 5 will be doing a presentation in church on Education Sunday. This will be on 5th February. More details will follow nearer the time.

Thank you for your support and co-operation. Please, feel free to contact me by email, via the office, if you have any questions or concerns. If a conversation is needed, I will arrange a telephone appointment with you.

Kind regards,

Mrs Blackburn