

Class 5 Newsletter

SPRING 2 2023

Dear parents,

This half term, we will continue to focus on our Geography topic, 'Why should rainforests be important to us all?' We will be writing an adventure story, based on *The Explorer* by Katherine Rundell, as well as well as looking at deforestation and persuasive writing. In Science, we will look at the plants aspect of Living Things and animal life cycles and reproduction.

PPA Cover

We will be supported by Miss Southern, in place of Mrs Jones, for one more week. Miss Southern will work with us every morning. Following week 1 it will be Miss Littleford (formerly Mrs Wibberley) and Mrs Jones who will be on a phased return to school. 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



As we focussed on poetry writing and diary entries last half term, we will write our adventure stories, now we have read a lot of *The Explorer*.

We will begin reading *Journey to the River Sea*, by Eva Ibbotson, and will be comparing this to *The Explorer*. After completing our stories, we will look at writing persuasive speeches related to deforestation.

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

We will continue to read and discuss *The Explorer* in our Guided Reading sessions and look at making comparisons between this and *Journey to the River Sea*, as mentioned earlier. We will do some comprehension work on topics linked to our Geography work, including deforestation and palm oil texts.

Mathematics

In Mathematics, we move on to decimals and percentages, using our multiplication and division knowledge to help us. We look at area and perimeter before we move on to statistics.

- Read and write decimal numbers as fractions [for example, $0.71 = \frac{71}{100}$]
- Recognise and use thousandths and relate them to tenths, hundredths and decimal equivalents
- Round decimals with two decimal places to the nearest whole number and to one decimal place
- Read, write, order and compare numbers with up to three decimal places
- Solve problems involving number up to three decimal places
- Recognise the per cent symbol (%) and understand per cent relates to number of parts per hundred
- Write percentages as a fraction with denominator hundred, and as a decimal
- Solve problems which require knowing percentage and decimal equivalents of $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{5}$, $\frac{2}{5}$, $\frac{4}{5}$ and

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those fractions with a denominator of a multiple of 10 or 25

- Measure and calculate the perimeter of composite rectilinear shapes in centimetres and metres
- Calculate and compare the area of rectangles (including squares), and including using standard units (cm² and m²)
- Estimate the area of irregular shapes

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.

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.

- 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
- Know the names of and locate at least eight major capital cities across the world
- Know the names of, and locate, a number of South or North American countries
- Know key differences between living in the UK and in a country in either North or South America
- 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

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. We will be creating video presentations linked to our Science learning on plants.

Religious Education

In Religious Education, we will be studying Easter - Why do Christians believe that Easter is a celebration of victory?

We will also explore loss, death and Christian hope as well as end of life rituals.

Art/DT

In DT, we will be designing, making and evaluating tribal masks. We will also look at traditional mola designs from Panama and create some artwork using these as our inspiration.

Physical Education

PE will now be on a Wednesday (swimming) and Friday (dance with a visiting PE specialist). Please, ensure that your child comes to school wearing an appropriate kit on these days. They should still wear PE kit on swimming day. If the children choose to wear their swimming costume/trunks under their clothes, please ensure that they have their underwear for after the lesson. We will be setting off for the baths at 8:50. So the children need to be in school by 8:45. They should enter school by the office entrance and make their way to class. If they are late, they will need to be driven to the swimming baths to meet us there. You have received a separate letter, from Mrs Taylor, regarding clothing rules for swimming sessions. Please read this before purchasing swimwear.

Spanish

We will be learning about pets and how to describe them. We will learn rules for masculine and feminine nouns and some conjunctions. Our last session will be creating and describing our own creatures.

PSHE

Our theme for this half term is 'Healthy Me.' We will look at smoking, alcohol, emergency aid, body image and our relationship with food. With the smoking and alcohol topic, we will be looking at the effects these can have on the body using some videos and images.

Please, feel free to contact me by email, via the office, if you have any questions or concerns regarding the on line learning or anything that may arise over the next few weeks. If a conversation is needed, I will arrange a telephone appointment with you.

Kind regards,

Mrs Blackburn