



Class 4's Term 5 Newsletter!

This term Class 4 will be putting on their hiking boots, donning their backpacks and getting out the insect repellent as they venture into the magical world of rainforests across the globe.

English - To begin our new topic, pupils will be taken on a tour of the amazing Amazon rainforest. Using all of their senses, they will describe the wonderful world around them. Can they guess which rainforest items are in our mystery bags? After developing our setting descriptions, we are going to be studying the poem 'For Forest' by Grace Nichols and using this to create out our own class performance poem. Finally, we'll be using the fantastic book 'The Great Kapok Tree' to develop our critical thinking and debating skills, as we engage with some of the important issues facing the rainforests today.

Numeracy - Pupils will start by using their measurement skills to create accurate representations of different rainforest plants. Will the classroom be able to house the world's largest leaf? They are also going to read and interpret climate data using bar charts, pictograms and line graphs. Later on in the topic, pupils will use maps of the rainforest to develop their understanding of coordinates - no getting lost!

Numeracy skills will focus on multiplication and division strategies.

Science - This term, Class 4 will become active citizens as they investigate ways they can improve an area of the school. They will learn how local environments change, including the school grounds, and consider the impact this has on wildlife and their habitats. Pupils will also learn about the effects of climate change and the positive difference they can make locally. If any green fingered parents would like to be part of this exciting project then please let us know.

Topic - The focus this term will be where in the world rainforests are found with some more detailed investigation of rainforest climates and countries. We are also excited to be finding out about the vast variety of animals that call the rainforest their home. To support this area of our topic we have arranged a class visit from Raptorxotics who will be bringing in some rainforest animals for us to see.

ICT - Children will be researching, planning and presenting their own weather reports as well as writing and producing a 'Deadly 60' style documentary.

Art/ DT - Art and DT will be closely linked to our topic work with animal and plant drawings taking place in our art lessons. DT will see the children making links to music as we design and make our own rain sticks (a letter about 'junk' resources will be coming home at some point!)

PE - Tribes from the Envira region of the Brazilian rainforest expertly use bows and arrows to hunt. Now Class 4 have the exciting opportunity to test their own hunting skills with the school's new archery equipment! Parents watch your back! Pupils will also be bowling us over with their cricket skills this term as they learn to develop their throwing, catching and batting techniques.

Friday afternoons will be Class 4's designated swimming time. Mrs East has a superb success rate with most year 5 and 6 children reaching or exceeding the 25m standard - we know year 4 can keep up this fantastic record!

Music - Music lessons this term will begin with the children learning key music skills by following the school's 'Charanga' programme. We will also be using our DT project to help us compose and perform a rainforest soundscape.

We wish you an enjoyable term and please pop in if you have any questions.

Mrs Sharp, Mrs Byrne and Mrs East