



## Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter

### Spring Term (1) 2023: Miss Hesketh



Dear parents,

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy new year. Our new topic for this half term is called 'Amazon Adventure', which I am sure will both enthuse and motivate your children. We will think about the question 'How is the Amazon amazing?' and this theme will continue for the full spring term right up to Easter.

#### Religious Education - Come and See:

Please see the separate newsletter, which is also available on the school website, to see which topics we will cover this term. Our main topic is called 'Mission' and we will start our topic on 'Memorial Sacrifice.'



#### PSHE:

In PSHE this half term we will be covering Internet Safety and thinking about the theme 'How friends can communicate safely?'

#### English:

**Stories from other cultures** – South American stories e.g. The Great Kapok Tree and The Vanishing Rainforest.

**Debate** – This unit will allow the children to participate in debates about deforestation whilst providing reasoned justifications for their views. Throughout this unit the children will explore the aspects of persuasive speech and select appropriate grammar and vocabulary to strengthen their debates. The outcome will be an opportunity for the pupils to perform their debate.

**Poetry – Figurative Language:** Children will be able to write a poem which includes: a structure, imagery created through carefully chosen words and phrases and appropriate use of language techniques such as metaphor, simile and personification.

**Ongoing English:** Vocabulary, grammar and punctuation will be taught within the English lessons. Guided reading, spellings and handwriting will also continue.



## Mathematics:

This half term our key learning will focus on:

- Subtracting fractions
- Multiplication and division
- Multiplying fractions
- Fractions of amount
- Decimals and fractions



**Science:** Throughout this half term we will be focusing upon observing life cycles. The pupils will be looking at:

- The differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird.
- The life process of reproduction in some plants and animals.
- We will also be researching famous scientists, such as David Attenborough.

**Computing:** This half term the learning will be based on spreadsheets and internet safety.



**Geography:** Over this half term the children will study the geography of the Amazon Basin which is the region of South America drained by the Amazon River and its tributaries. As most of the region is covered by tropical rainforest (biome) they will learn about this and other rainforests of the world. The children will start to learn how the future of tropical rainforests and other ecosystems is closely connected to human lives and lifestyles. They will also learn about the wider country of Brazil in which most of the Amazon rainforest is located.

**Art:** Throughout this theme, the children will investigate and improve their observational drawing skills, develop these into larger paintings and printmaking and/or use digital experimentation in the style of Henri Rousseau and Ruth Daniels.



**PE:** PE will be taught by Mr McVittie on a Wednesday afternoon. Please could you make sure your child comes to school in a full PE kit to ensure they can participate in the lesson.

**French:** French will continue to be delivered by Madame Russell on a Wednesday afternoon. Topics will include the Epiphany story and tradition; talk about my friends and to be/to have.



**Homework:** I will continue to use SeeSaw as a tool for homework this half term. Children will receive different amounts of house points for their homework tasks; I will award an amount based on the effort each child has put into their homework and the quality, not quantity.

**Weekly homework task:** Each Monday there will be a task set on Seesaw for the children to complete for the following Monday. These tasks will vary and link to things we are learning in class. The children will complete a range of the following activities: maths (often using MyMaths), reading comprehension or something linked to our topic work.

**Reading:** Please encourage your child to read for 15 minutes each day. When they have finished their reading book, they will need to fill in a brief review on SeeSaw (spend no more than five minutes completing this). As some of the books are a lot thicker in the higher stages, we understand these will take longer to read. Please continue to spend time listening to your child read when possible and ask them questions linked to the text.

**Spellings:** Spellings will be set each Friday and should be revised for a test at the end of the following week (Friday). These will be set on Seesaw.

**Times Table Rockstars:** Remember to encourage your child to keep using TTRS or other times tables games. Completion of this will be checked most Tuesday's and Friday's.

#### **Notes for Parents**

- Please ensure you read any correspondence sent by the school office or myself on Dojo.
- Any certificates and medals achieved outside of school which your child wishes to share with us, please send a photo, video or medals/certificates etc. to show in Awards Assembly on a Friday.
- Children are encouraged to bring a water bottle to school each day which should be full and then taken home to be washed.
- We continue to encourage children to bring a healthy snack at break Monday – Thursday, with a treat day on a Friday if you so wish.

*I hope this outline is of some help to you, as we venture to work together for the best education for your child. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me via Dojo or the school office.*

Yours sincerely,

*L Hesketh*

**Miss. L. Hesketh, Year 5 Teacher**

***With Christ, we live, love, learn and grow.***

