



Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter

Spring Term (1) 2024: 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:

1. MISSION - Continuing Jesus' mission in diocese (ecumenism)
2. MEMORIAL SACRIFICE - Eucharist as the living memorial of Christ's sacrifice



PSHE:

In PSHE this half term we will be covering Computer Safety and thinking about the theme 'How can friends 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.

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:

- Adding and subtracting fractions
- Written method for multiplication
- Written method for division



Science: Throughout this half term we will be focusing upon living things and their habitats.

Computing: This half term the learning will be based on 'Online Safety'. We will consider the following questions:

- Who do I tell if I see anything online that makes me upset or scared?
- Why are passwords so important?
- Why is it important to reference sources in my work?

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.



Art: Children will focus on creating a portrait through painting and mixed media. This unit offers pupils opportunities to develop skills in creating interesting portrait drawings using words, experimenting with materials and techniques, and constructing self-portraits that represent aspects of themselves. This comprehensive unit enhances their understanding and application of art vocabulary and encourages thoughtful decisions in their artwork composition.

Music: Charanga – Jazz 1

The children will listen to and appraise the following tunes 'Three Note Bossa' and 'The Five Note Swing'. They will learn about the interrelated dimensions of music through playing instruments and improvising, as well as performing.



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 20 minutes each day. When they have finished their reading book, they will need to complete 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 each Friday.

Notes for Parents

- Please ensure you read any correspondence sent by the school office or myself on Dojo.
- Any certificates and medals which your child wishes to share in Awards Assembly on a Friday may be brought in.
- 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 – Friday.

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.

