

# YEAR 3 CURRICULUM LETTER

# Summer Term I 2024

Welcome back! We hope you have had a wonderful Easter break, and we look forward to keeping you informed about what is happening in class via the Curriculum Letters.

# THE GREAT KAPOK TREE \* OAK OF THE ARKHOW ANY TORKET by Lynne Cherry

# English

In English this half term, we will be focusing on the rainforest. We begin the unit by looking at the story of 'The Great Kapok Tree' and how deforestation can ruin the habitats of animals and humans that live there. We will be writing a short narrative story about how different animals in the rainforest are affected by this.

After that, we will be looking closer into the actions of deforestation and will be writing a persuasive speech. We will be looking at different ways we can persuade people not to cause deforestation to the magnificent rainforest we have across the world.

### Maths

We begin this half term looking at statistics and in particular, line graphs and tables. We will be drawing, reading and interpreting line graphs, before we read and interpret tables and read a variety of timetables, which is an important life skill.

We then move onto revisiting angles - revising what an angle measures, recapping types of angles and practising using a protractor. We will work on measuring angles on a straight line, before introducing reflex angles. All the time, we will be estimating, comparing, naming and measuring angles.

Our Maths Target this half term is to find factor pairs of a number e.g.  $1 \times 10$  and  $2 \times 5 = 10$ . Therefore, factor pairs of 10 are 1 and 10, 2 and 5. Please practise finding factor pairs at home.

# R.E – Significant Women in the Bible.

In this unit, we will widen the children's knowledge and understanding of the role and significance of women in the Bible — Jochebed, Ruth, Hannah, Naomi, Deborah, Abigail, and Miriam. We will also reflect upon the actions of these women and consider what we can learn from their stories. Our learning will centre around a number of key questions:



What can I learn from this story?
Why is this a significant moment?
Why is this woman important?
In which values and beliefs are the actions of the women rooted?
Did she do the right thing?
Where does this story fit into God's big story?

#### Science

In Science this half term, we will begin by completing our force unit that we started last half term. We will be looking at different forces, such as friction and water resistance and how pulleys and levers work when we apply force to them. We will then cover the start of our next unit, 'Animals and their habitats'. This unit will cover the range of life cycles for different animals, and we will be looking into the reproduction of plants.

# History

In History this half term, we will be completing the previous unit the 'Ancient Islamic Civilisation' and why it was known as the Golden Age. Following the completion of this, we will be moving onto our new unit 'The Ancient Greeks'. Our main focus will be "What did they bring to the world?" During this unit, we will learn how the Ancient Greeks were influenced by their Gods. We will recognise how important philosophy and democracy were in helping the Greeks to be remembered today and finally we will learn about the main characteristics of the Spartians and the Athenians.



### DT

In Design and Technology, we will be making 3D moving books to share with Year I. We will be planning each page of our books and will be assembling components necessary for different structures and mechanisms. We will have to hide mechanical elements with more layers, using spacers where needed. We will use a range of mechanisms and structures to illustrate our stories and make them interactive for the users.

# PE (Tuesday and Friday)

With Junior Jam on a Tuesday, we will be concentrating on Kwik Cricket.



The main aims are to:

- Use running, jumping, throwing, and catching in isolation and in combination.
- Play competitive games, modified where appropriate and apply basic principles suitable for attacking and defending.

During a series of lessons, we will learn how to move and field a ball (progressing to fielding a rolling and bouncing ball), learn how to throw underarm and catch the ball, work as part of a Team and will progress our fielding by moving towards a moving/bouncing ball, fielding it and then throwing overarm for the first time. We will learn bat dribbling and how to strike a ball.

On a Friday afternoon, we will focus on Badminton. Over the course of the six weeks, Year 5 will be learning how to score during the game and how to make it difficult for our opponents. We will also learn how to hit long and short shots accurately and identify which shot is to be used depending on the game situation. Finally, we will be learning to use our footwork effectively in order to be able to recover after lunges as well as being able to move around the court.

# Computing

During this half term with Junior Jam, the Year 5s will be looking at the unit Level 3 iCommunicate — iAdvertise. The children will be introduced to advertising across three different mediums: Print, TV and Radio. Both classes will learn how to create radio adverts and sonic branding to suit different products and themes. The aim of this unit is to create a TV advert for a new product and a slogan for their product. As a result of this, each child will be able to have a series of works surrounding the advertisement industry.

### **PSHE**



This half term we will be covering a range of topics for our 'Kidsafe' unit. These topics are important for our children to know and understand, where they will have opportunities to share their experiences and ask questions all to do with staying safe. A weekly letter will be posted onto 'Class Dojo', explaining what your

child will have learnt in the sessions each week.

# Spanish

This half term, Junior Jam will be focussing upon the theme "Food and eating out." During these six weeks, pupils will enhance their current knowledge of food and drink vocabulary by reviewing and learning new terms, as well as discussing



their food preferences using appropriate opinion phrases. Pupils will also acquire the skill to describe the food they consume during the three main meals of the day and mention the respective time. Additionally, they will also practise expressing the cost of different foods and drinks. They will further practise ordering food in a restaurant by using the vocabulary they have learnt and the sentence 'I would like'.

#### Music

During the next six weeks with Junior Jam, the Year 5 children will focus on Steel pans. This unit will explore the steel pan and its origins. Both classes will learn a number of different hits to perform on the steel pan and accompanying percussion

instruments. Each week they will look into a different genre that uses the instrument and explore the different musical characteristics with a view to being able to recognise some of them by ear at the end of the course. As well as developing their aural skills, children will be introduced to more advanced playing techniques and work as a class ensemble to perform pieces that gradually get more complex rhythmically and musically.