




Year 4 Newsletter: Autumn 1 – 2023

Remarkable Rainforests

Our Learning Theme		
Welcome back. It's lovely to see everyone back in school after such a long break. Whilst there may be some changes in the structure of our school day, we have an exciting half term planned with lots of interesting and engaging activities that we are sure will help the children to settle in quickly. Our topic this half term is Remarkable Rainforests. We will explore the topic through the majority of our curriculum areas. The children will discover where the rainforests of the world are, why they are there, who and what inhabits them, their importance to the world and why their existence is threatened. We will visit the wonderful Tropical World as part of our Remarkable Rainforest topic. This will be followed by a visit to our very own temperate rainforest - Hirst Woods!		Important Dates: Thursday 21st September – Tropical World Tuesday 26th September - European Day of Languages Bun Sale for Yorkshire Air Ambulance Wednesday 18th October- 50p per bun (in a named envelope please) TBC- Earhart visit to Hirst Woods TBC- Fiennes visit to Hirst Woods (both trips will be weather dependent)
Homework	Learning Log	
Maths and spelling homework will be sent home every fortnight in the form of a Learn by Heart Target (starting on Friday 15th September). We would appreciate any help you could give your child in becoming confident and fluent in their maths and spelling targets. Please could you also help your child with learning their times tables. It would be fantastic if all children can be fluent in their 2, 5 and 10's as well as their 3, 4 and 8's before we can start learning the Year Four objectives.	A Learning Log activity will be sent home for your child to complete over this term. This term's learning log should be returned to school by Monday 4th December . Children will be encouraged to follow their own line of enquiry linked to our exciting rainforest theme.	
	PE Days	
	Tuesday – Indoor Please come to school in your PE kit on these days. Remember school colours (no football shirts) and warm kit for outdoor PE when it gets chilly please. During our outdoor PE sessions, we will be working alongside a qualified sports coach from KANGA sports education.	
Curriculum		
English	Maths	Science
In English we will be working with <i>The Thing</i> , an adventure book written by Shaun Tan. In guided reading, we will be reading a number of texts such as <i>The Kapok Tree</i> , <i>The Shaman's Apprentice</i> and <i>The Vanishing Rainforest</i> . Our class reading book is called <i>The Explorer</i> , written by Katherine Rundell. These are beautiful books, which highlight the threat of deforestation that the rainforests and their inhabitants face. The children will also debate issues around the use of, and threats to, the rainforest.	In maths we will begin by extending our knowledge and understanding of place value, including numbers beyond 1000, negative numbers and Roman numerals. We will move on to adding and subtracting numbers with up to 4 digits using the formal written methods of columnar addition and subtraction where appropriate. We will also be working with the children on their times tables facts throughout this half term.	Our science will link to our topic and include exploring and using classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in our local and wider environment. We will learn about how environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things. During our trip to Tropical World, we will participate in a workshop led by their education team called 'Eat or be eaten!' that links to our unit of work around the construction and interpretation of a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey.
Geography	Music	Computing
In geography we will be exploring: *What is a rainforest and where can we find them? *Why are rainforests important? *What lives and grows in rainforests? *Why are rainforests disappearing?	The children will continue to develop their glockenspiel skills in their music lessons. They will also be listening to, appraising and learning the song 'Lean on Me'.	We will begin the year by revisiting our e-Safety rules to ensure that the children are continuing to be responsible and safe digital citizens. Following that, our computing sessions will follow the media strand of the curriculum. This will culminate in a presentation on the rainforests, which will include sound, images and videos.
Other:		Year Four Team
We will explore larger numbers and body parts in French and in RE we will be exploring what faiths are shared in our country. Our new daily Crew sessions will help the children to settle into the routines and expectations of Year 4 as well as providing an opportunity to develop a greater understanding of the fundamental British values of Democracy, Rule of Law, Individual Liberty and Respect and Tolerance. These values will also be explored in our PHSE topic of Being My Best.		Earhart Class Teacher – Mr Hurtault Fiennes Class Teachers - Miss Jacklin & Miss Walton Support Staff - Mrs Wilson (HTLA), Miss Hodgson (LSA) Miss Sayers (LSA)
To contact us, email: office@saltaireps.co.uk		



Year 4 Newsletter: Autumn 1 – 2023

Remarkable Rainforests