



P.P.S. Elm Class

April 2023
Summer Term



The Amazon Basin

Dear Parents,

With the change of season, we are looking forward to seizing the opportunity to take our learning outside and make the most of any warm weather (fingers crossed).

Our first **geography** unit of work will build on children's knowledge of rivers and South America, focusing specifically on river basins. Children will learn about the significance of the Amazon biome and the effect rivers have on their surrounding areas. Children will discover what vegetation belts are and how the UK compares to regions in South America in terms of natural resources and food production.

Taking our learning outdoors will continue to be a priority this term. Elm Class will be working alongside other classes to maintain the allotments, look after the school farm and grow their own produce. As part of **design and technology**, children will build on their knowledge of seasonality and cook dishes using what they harvest from the school grounds.

In **science**, children will be learning about forces such as gravity, friction and air resistance. They will learn about how levers, pulleys and gears can be used to create mechanical advantage and plan investigations to observe how changing variables can alter outcomes. Towards the end of the summer term, children will be learning about our solar system and how the movement of the planets relative to the sun. This will allow us to conduct some investigations over time, observing and measuring how shadows change.



In **P.S.H.E.** children will be discussing how using technology affects our well-being and considering ways in which it can be both beneficial and harmful.

Computing lessons will initially focus on using Visio, which will give children an introduction into creating vector graphics. Later in the term, children will learn how to apply selection and loops in algorithms, so they can create their own online quizzes.

P.E. will be taught twice a week on Thursday and Friday. Children will be developing the skills required to play tennis, striking and fielding games and athletics. Throughout our P.E. lessons children are taught the importance of physical activity as part of a healthy lifestyle. They also will apply the evaluative skills they have learnt in other units to a range of skills and sports.

This is just an outline of what the children will be exploring during this topic. We are using these newsletters to give you information about your child's education as this will replace the foundation subjects comments on the annual report.



P.P.S. Elm Class

April 2023

'Get Creative'

As part of our 'Get Creative' topic, children will be learning about street art, including the works of Banksy. They will compare this with other artists that use layering in different ways, such as Georges Braque.

Later in the term, in **design and technology**, children will create a textile project of their own choice. As part of this, they will research, design and evaluate their product, and learn basic stitching techniques.

R.E. lessons in the first half term, will explore the Gospel texts and consider how they affect Christians' beliefs and practices. Later in the term, children's learning will be guided by the following question: What does the Qur'an reveal to Muslims about Allah and his guidance?

In **French** lessons, children will learn the names of the planets in French and relate them to the days of the week. They will then describe them using adjectives and making them agree with the noun according to number and gender.

Later in the term, children learn to describe seasons using a poem and the **music** from Vivaldi's 'The Four Seasons'. They also learn how to describe the weather.

Homework will continue to be set weekly. Arguably, the most important part of this homework is the need for children to read at home at least five days out of seven. The overall effect of regular reading on children's education cannot be understated as it has a knock-on effect on many other subjects in the curriculum. Please ensure your child completes this in addition to the maths, spellings and reading comprehension sheet.

Of course, **English** and **Maths** will be taught on a daily

basis and will often be linked to the topic areas listed above. Spellings will follow the National Curriculum patterns along with two words from the statutory list. Times-tables will be practised in school regularly and tested on Wednesdays. Spellings will be tested on a Monday. If you would like any additional information about this term's learning, please do not hesitate to ask us.

If you have any concerns or feel that you need to talk to me, please feel free to make an appointment at the office.

Many thanks,

Rob Neary (Class Teacher)
Mrs Diaper (Teaching Assistant)