

Welcome to the Summer Term

Our main topic focus will be rainforests, which we hope will thoroughly engage the children. We also have our outdoor learning day to spark their enthusiasm.

As always, if you have any concerns or wish to speak to either of the Year 5 teachers, please do not hesitate to use our email addresses below.

5MB: miss.baker@greattotham.essex.sch.uk or 5SB: miss.brewer@greattotham.essex.sch.uk

The Year 5 team.

Diary Dates:

18.04.24	5MB Road Safety
25.04.24	5SB Road Safety
02.05.24	Swimming starts
20.05.24	Sports Day
10.06.24	Class Photos
18.06.24	Outdoor Learning
10.07.24	Thurstable taster day
12.07.24	Summer Fete

Geography

Leading on from learning about the Maya in Central America, the focus this term is on the continent of South America, as we study rainforests, particularly the Amazon Rainforest. The children will learn about the climate of both temperate and tropical forests, before looking in depth at the layers of the rainforests, the ecosystems these contain and how animals and plants are suited to this habitat.

The children will then look at the dangers and threats rainforests face and the devastating effect deforestation has on the 'world's lungs'.



English

The children will write stories, compose poetry and produce non-fiction texts based on our rainforest topic. They will also study Sir David Attenborough, and write a biography. During these units, the children will continue to work on vocabulary choices to engage their audiences, develop greater understanding of clause structures and employ advanced punctuation. They will learn to write with improved cohesion to produce well thought out pieces of work with linked paragraphs.

Guided reading continues. We much appreciate you continuing to read with and to your child regularly as it really does make a difference especially to comprehension and developing vocabulary. We will also be continuing to promote reading for pleasure throughout the year.

Maths

The children will apply calculation skills to solve a range of problems including those which involve measure. They will consolidate their understanding of metric units of measure and learn about imperial measurements. We will continue to enrich the children's understanding of fractions, decimals and percentages and their interlinked relationship.

The children will apply their knowledge in a range of contexts, as they become more efficient at problem solving and reasoning. Finally, they will look at rotations, translations and reflection on a co-ordinate grid. They will also interpret and create line graphs using statistics.

Lifeskills

In RSE (Relationship and Sex Education), the children will be taught about the physical and emotional changes both sexes go through in puberty. A letter has been sent home, which will provide more information.

Alongside this, the children will also learn about prejudice, discrimination, illegal and legal drugs and how money used from taxes gets allocated.

RE

The children will further develop their understanding of Hinduism and Christianity through studying prayer and worship. They will be asked to compare the different practices and also look at the similarities and differences of both faiths.

PE

Due to bank holidays and other school events, please ensure the children have their PE kit in school all week as PE will occasionally be on different days this term.

The children will improve their athletic techniques in running, long jump, high jump and throwing. During the second half term, the children will improve their striking and fielding skills, as well as orienteering.

Year 5 swimming will be every Thursday, week commencing 29th April.

Art

Linked to our rainforest topic, the children will create collages of rainforest animals. They will explore the effects of shape and texture with different materials, before experimenting with layering and embellishing techniques to create final masterpieces.

When drawing, they will continue to develop perspective and learn how to show movement in landscapes. They will use watercolour pencils to create their final piece of work.



Music

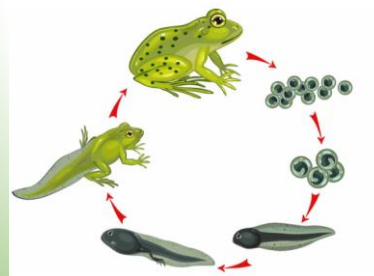
Using tuned instruments, the children will continue to learn to read musical notation. The children will play and compose pieces of music based on the pentatonic scale.

The children will create a composition to support their computing work. They will perform and record their creations before adding them to a movie project.

Science

The children will explore the lifecycles of different animals and plants. Learning about lifecycles will support the work on puberty covered in RSE.

Investigation and scientific enquiry will be a key focus for our work on forces. The children will have the opportunity to explore different forces, including water resistance, air resistance and friction. They will also investigate how mechanisms can have an effect on forces.



DT

The children will explore fair trade products and learn about the impact of air miles for ingredients. They will make and bake crumbly banana squares, improving their mashing, measuring and baking skills. Allergy letters will be sent out nearer the time.

French

This term's foci in French are animals and food. The children will begin to construct detailed sentences using adjectives and prepositions to describe. As well as this, they will have the opportunity to rehearse and speak their ideas.

Homework

Guided reading homework will be set on a Monday (due Thursday). The children would benefit from completing their homework independently to give us a clear view of their understanding. However, if your child has needed help, please let us know so that we can support them in school. Each homework is individually marked so please make sure your child looks at all the feedback and acts upon it before the next session. Maths will continue to be set on a Monday and due the following Monday.

Please encourage your child to take more responsibility for organising their time to complete these tasks in preparation for Year 6.

