

Welcome to the Summer Term

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

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

5B: miss.boon@greattotham.essex.sch.uk or 5C: miss.campling@greattotham.essex.sch.uk

The Year 5 team.

Diary Dates:

21.04.23	5C Road Safety
28.04.23	5B Road Safety
04.05.23	Swimming starts
22.05.23	Sports Day
13.06.23	Outdoor learning
19.06.23	STEM week
11.07.23	Thurstable taster day

Geography: Rainforest Explorer

Moving 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 use a variety of stimuli to generate ideas. They will also study King Charles, and write a biography.

During these units of work, the children will continue to work on their vocabulary choices to engage their audiences, develop greater understanding of clause structures and advanced punctuation. They will learn to write with improved cohesion to produce well thought out pieces of work.

Guided reading continues this term. Please continue to encourage your child's enjoyment of reading.

Maths

The children will apply their 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 refresh and revise the children's understanding of fractions, decimals and percentages and their interlinked relationship.

The children will be applying 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

RSE (Relationship and Sex Education) will be covered this term where the children will be taught about the physical and emotional changes both sexes go through in puberty. A letter will follow shortly which will provide more information.

Alongside this, the children will also learn about prejudice, discrimination, illegal and legal drugs and how resources are allocated nationally.

RE

The children will continue to develop their understanding of the faiths of Islam and Christianity through studying prayer and worship of their respective gods. They will be asked to compare the different practices and also look at the similarities of both faiths that are based on love and compassion.

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 develop problem solving skills and team work in our first few sessions, followed by improving 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 tactical game play in rounders. Year 5 swimming will be every Thursday, commencing on the 4th of May.

Music

Using tuned instruments, the children will further develop their skills of reading 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 their movie project.

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.



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.

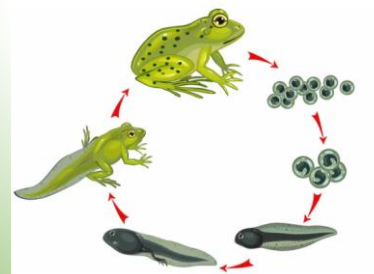
When drawing, they will continue to develop perspective and learn how to show movement in landscapes. They will use watercolour pencils to create their final piece of work.



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.



French

This term's focus in French is learning vocabulary to describe the face and body. The children will continue to develop their understanding of French nouns and adjectives and how to write these in grammatically accurate sentences.

Homework

Guided reading homework will be set on a Monday (due the following Thursday). If your child needs support, please use the private message function on guided classroom to contact your child's guided reading teacher.

Maths will continue to be set on a Friday and due the following Friday. Please encourage your child to take more responsibility for organizing their time to complete these tasks in preparation for year