



May 2023

Dear Year 3 Parents/Carers,

Welcome back for the final term of year 3! I hope you had an enjoyable Easter break.

Our topic for this term is called, 'Here and There'. This is a geography-driven topic where we will be thinking about where we live compared to places such as the rainforest, focusing specifically on the Amazon in South America. Whenever possible, this topic will be covered through cross curricular teaching and learning – linking subjects together to ensure a wholesome experience for the children.

In **English** we will be focusing on two texts: *Jemmy Button* by Jennifer Uman and *The Wild Robot* by Peter Brown. We will be working on our writing skills to write our own stories set in the rainforest, formal letters, diary entries, setting descriptions, non-chronological reports and character descriptions. Through this we will also be working on improving our grammar, punctuation, handwriting and spelling.

In **Maths** we will continue working on the four operations: calculating addition, subtraction, multiplication and division using formal methods where appropriate. Alongside our previous learning we will also learn about time, fractions, measure and shape all with embedded reasoning and problem solving skills.

In **Science**, we will be learning about plants, found both in this country and in the rainforest, and animals including humans, focusing on nutrition and skeletons and muscles. We will develop our scientific skills further by completing exciting investigations and linking these to our topic. The children will be visiting Kew Gardens as part of a Rainforest workshop which will explore the structure and growth of plants in a real life setting. After half term the class will visit London Zoo to explore and classify animal species and their skeletons. We will also be hosting STEAM week to provide cross curricular opportunities across Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.

In **Geography** we will be thinking about the region that we live in in the U.K. and comparing this to the Amazon Rainforest, Brazil. We will use globes, maps and atlases to locate, annotate and describe rainforests, with a focus on the Amazon. We will also be thinking and learning about the human and physical geographical characteristics of these places and how physical features have been influenced by human features.

In **Art** and **DT** we will learn about the artist Henry Rousseau and creating our own mixed media collages of the rainforest based on his. In the coming weeks we will also create symmetrical dart frog collages using indian ink and oil pastels. During our science learning we will complete observational drawings of different plants using sketching pencils and tie dye material to learn about natural tie dying techniques which are used by South American indigenous cultures.

In **Religious Education** we will be focusing on Christianity and discussing Christian religious buildings and their significance to believers. The class will visit the local church in Kentish Town to meet the parish priest and teacher Graeme where we will take a tour of the building.

In **Computing**, we will be using iPads and laptops for researching and learning about internet safety. We will be continuing to develop our typing and layout skills while publishing work in English.

In **French**, the class will continue to practise greetings and learn about colours and clothing. We will use our outfits as inspiration and the world around us. The children will also be able to practise their oral with older children within the school.

In **PSHE** we will be discussing helpful and unhelpful pressure and how we can look after our planet. The class will learn about what makes a good friend, how to maintain healthy friendships, and the importance of identity. Other topics we will cover include stereotyping, emergency situations and the biological differences between males and females. We will also think about healthy eating and nutrition, linking this to food that comes from South America.

Year 3 will continue to have outdoor **PE** sessions on **Thursday** mornings with a Camden coach and indoor sessions on **Friday** afternoons with Rose. Please ensure that your child has the appropriate clothing and footwear in school for these lessons.

Home Learning

Your child will continue to receive homework every **Friday** to allow your child to share with you some of his/her school learning. **As usual, homework is due back on the following Friday.**

Spelling tests will continue to happen on **Thursdays**, please keep practising using the methods posted on Google classroom or the method your child finds the most helpful. Please also continue to practise the 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 10 times tables and their related division facts with your children at home. We will continue to practise our times tables in class using times table rockstars, but please continue to do so at home too!

Guided Reading will continue as before. Reading is extremely important so please continue to ensure that your child is reading at home. This can be a book borrowed from school or something they have at home. Please also ensure that you continue to encourage your child to fill in their pink reading records when they have read. This only has to be one sentence commenting on things such as what they think about the book, what they predict might happen next, likes or dislikes, a word they found difficult, a comment on a character etc.

Visits and workshops this term:

Kew Gardens
Holy Trinity Church
London Zoo

Tuesday 9th May
Wednesday 24th May
Wednesday 29th June

Yours sincerely,

Rose Dunster