

YEAR 5 CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER - AUTUMN TERM 1



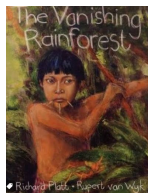
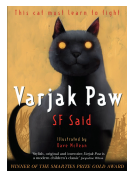
Geography: Visit, Live or Avoid?

We will be exploring different climate zones and biomes in this unit; focusing on the key features of rainforests, the tundra, grasslands, the taiga and deserts. We will locate these on a world map and learn about the different plants and animals which live in these locations; identifying the challenges they overcome in order to survive there. We will identify the similarities and differences between the different biomes and explore the impact humans are having on biomes.

English:

Our key reading texts for this half term will be:

- Varjak Paw (S.F. Said)
- The Vanishing Rainforest (Richard Platt)
- The Haunting of Aveline Jones (Phil Hickes)



We will be writing non-chronological reports about biomes - including the rainforest - which links with our learning in Geography. We will then write a narrative extract focusing on the writing techniques used in mystery stories.

History: How civilised were the Anglo-Saxons?

In history, we will be investigating the reasons why the Saxons wanted to invade Britain and the evidence to support this. We will find out about who ruled the Anglo-Saxons, their hierarchy, towns, burials and about their religious beliefs before learning about how justice was served in Anglo-Saxon times. We will evaluate the different aspects of Anglo-Saxon life and consider whether this is evidence 'for' or 'against' them being civilised.

Maths:



- **Number:** Place Value, Number Systems & Roman Numerals
- **Number:** Addition, subtraction, multiplication, division

DT: How is it possible to use cams to bring a story to life?

Design brief: the KS1 teachers have asked us to help them inspire their children's love of reading.

In this unit, we will produce some moving toys using a variety of cam mechanisms to bring their stories to life. Children will explore how the shape of the cam affects movement and draw diagrams to refer to when designing their moving toy. They will continuously evaluate their work, adapting and modifying designs as needed.

RE: Why do some people think God exists?

This investigation enables pupils to learn in depth from different religious and non-religious groups about belief in God. Pupils will consider why people do or don't believe in God and the impact that might have on the way they live their everyday life.

Music:

Exploring how we can make music without instruments!
Rhythmic composition:
using body percussion to create beats and movements.

French:

This half term, we will be recapping work from Year 4:

- Alphabet
- Days of the week
- Times of the day
- Numbers to 50



Computing:

- **iProgram:** exploring the program Scratch
- **E-safety:** use of avatars / reporting concerns

PSHE: How can friends communicate safely?

In this unit, we will be looking at different types of relationships between people and different types of communication including communicating with friends online. We will learn about the types of information which are safe to share online and how to deal with situations which make us feel uncomfortable. Children will learn about different ways in which they can get help or support if needed.

Home Learning

English: children will have brought home a school reading book. Children are asked to read 5 times a week in order to be able to take their Accelerated Reader quizzes, earn certificates, bookmarks and even books! Please encourage and support children with this; please read with them and let them read to you. Research suggests reading for pleasure is the single most important indicator of a child's future success. Children will also bring home a spelling sheet to practise their weekly spellings on.

Maths: children need to continue to practise their times tables. They can use TT Rockstars and can also practise their times tables and number skills on Numbots and Hit the Button.

Useful links and key vocabulary can be found on the [knowledge organisers](#) for each subject for you to explore together. These are available on the school website.

We would love to know if:

You have any relevant skills or experience you could share with us or if you have any books or resources linked to our subjects.