



Fleet Primary School

Fleet Road Hampstead London NW3 2QT
Tel: 020 7485 2028 Fax: 020 7485 5177
E-mail: admin@fleet.camden.sch.uk
Headteacher: Don McGibbon



Year 4 Topic Letter

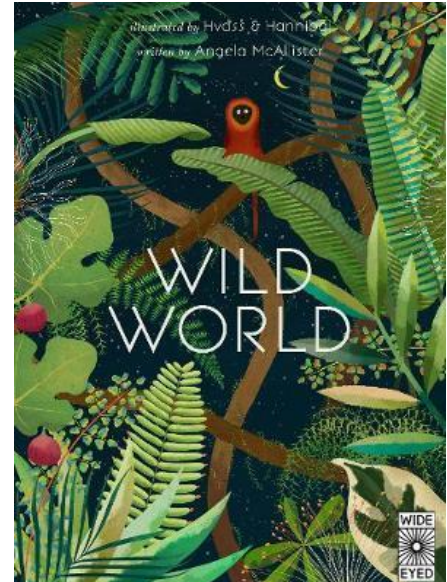
Summer 21

Into the Rainforest

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you all had a restful Easter break. We're excited to announce our summer term topic: Into the Rainforest! This will be a Geography topic, largely based around South America, with a focus on the Amazon and Brazil.

In English we will start with a poetry unit using the book 'Wild World' as a starting point for the children to create their own free verse poems about the rainforest. Our other fiction key texts will be 'Jemmy Button' and 'The Great Kapok Tree', as well as our class reader 'The Explorer'. For our non-fiction work, we'll be writing our own information books about rainforest animals and doing some persuasive letter writing around rainforest conservation.



In Geography we will be learning all about South America, starting with a general focus on countries, capital cities and flags and moving onto some more focused work around the Geography of Brazil and the Amazon River. In History we will be exploring the Incas, learning about who they were, what they wore, their beliefs and where they lived (focussing on Machu Picchu).

Science this term will be all about living things and their environments, exploring classification of species and environmental issues.

In RE we will be looking at Buddhism, focussing on aspects such as the story of Buddha and the eightfold path. In Art we will explore rainforest plants and animals using different techniques, including pastels, chalks and printing. We will also look at Henri Rousseau's 'Surprised!'. In DT, we will be trying some South American cooking and then writing some recipes and instructions and also exploring weaving. In Maths the children will continue to follow the National Curriculum and will continue to develop skills around place value, written and mental methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, handling data and statistics, time and measures and fractions.

We'd like to do a project at the end of the summer term using **shoe boxes** so please start saving them for us now!

PE this term continues to be on **Tuesday and Wednesday**. The children will need to make sure they have a PE kit to change into on those days (shorts/ leggings/ tracksuit bottoms, t-shirt and trainers). As the weather gets nicer, PE may take place outside so it's especially important for the children to have correct footwear. It's really helpful if any clothes are labelled!

The children will be continuing Trumpet and Trombone lessons with Rod on **Thursday** so please remind them to bring their instrument on those days. They should also be practising at home as often as possible.

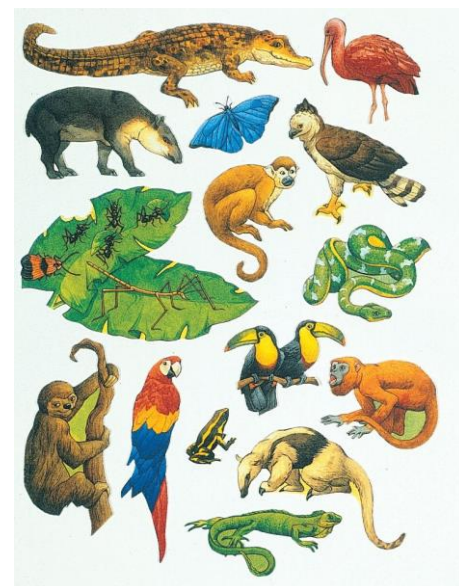
It is important that your child has a labelled **water bottle** for school to allow them to get drinks during the day. This should be in school every day. Please also remind your child to bring a **book bag or backpack** with them each day. They should be taking books between home and school to read, as well as carrying their green spelling books with them.

Home learning is continuing as it was last term. Reading tasks are posted on Seesaw and Maths tasks are assigned on Mathletics. Both are updated with new work for your child to complete **every week**, on a **Friday**. Your child should also be accessing Bug Club for reading and Times Table Rockstars for Maths at least once weekly. Please email if your child has lost any of their log in details for these. Thank you for the support you've given the home learning so far, it really helps your child make progress.

If you would like to discuss anything with us, please send a message via the school office. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Best wishes,

Ruth Hanfling and Lynley Benbetka



Ways you can help your child at home:

Maths

1) Please continue to help your child with their times tables. The children should be fluent in all their times table and division facts by the time they leave Year 4. Times table Rockstars is a brilliant way for your child to practise: <https://trockstars.com/>

There are also some good online games available here: <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables>.

2) Rounding – children should be able to round 4-digit numbers to the nearest ten, hundred and thousand in Year 4 but a lot of children still need support doing this.

3) Please continue to support your child learning how to tell the time using both analogue and digital clocks. By the end of Year 4, children should be familiar with reading all analogue and digital times and converting between the two, as well as reading 24 hour times.

As always, Mathletics is a great place for your children to practise their Maths skills and covers all of the Y4 curriculum. Please encourage them to play at home here <http://uk.mathletics.com/>.

English

1) We teach the spelling curriculum on a roughly two week cycle, we also do weekly spelling tests of words the children are currently misspelling in class. These lists are sent home via the green vocab books the children have in their book bags. New spelling lists will continue to be sent home once the child has passed a test; please support your child with learning these words. The website <https://spellingframe.co.uk/> links well with the curriculum and can be a good place for your child to practise their spelling words.

Your child should also be confident spelling the first hundred high frequency words (a list of these can be found online at <http://www.highfrequencywords.org/first-100-high-frequency-word-lists.html>). If you notice your child misspelling any of these, then please practise them. Additionally, if you notice any common words in your child's reading diary or home learning which they are frequently misspelling, please feel free to practise these also.

2) Please continue to ensure that your child is reading **every night** for at least 15 minutes. In Year 4, it's not always necessary for your child to read aloud to you but encouraging discussions around the books they are reading and asking them questions about the texts is a good way to engage with their reading. Children should be filling in either their reading diary or Seesaw with a record of which book they were reading and how many pages and then leaving a short comment **once a week**. Feel free to add any additional comments if you wish. Children are also given new follow up tasks **weekly** which follow their reading session with me in class. Please remind your child to complete these! Books are updated on Bug Club for children to read at home and there are quiz questions for children to answer as they read. Please encourage your child to access these.

Don't forget Bug Club is a great place for practising reading: <https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk>

3) Encourage writing wherever possible. Emails/ letters, diaries, postcards, reviews and comics are all fun ideas.