

Summer Newsletter

April 2023 Year 5/6

With one term left this academic year, this newsletter is to inform you about what is coming up for the children in year 5 and 6.

Knowledge Mats: We have key concepts linked to our topics that we want the children to remember called 'sticky knowledge'. We will introduce new units with a knowledge mat for the children to be introduced to the vocabulary we shall be using in each unit, as well as facts they should know. Please help your child to read these mats and recall knowledge from them. Any extra research completed at home will be very much welcomed in at school, we will be delighted to see it!

Rainforest KS2 Knowledge Mat

Subject Specific Vocabulary		Exciting Books
canopy	The canopy, which may be over 20m above the ground, is made up of the overlapping branches and leaves of rainforest trees.	
emergent layer	The emergent layer is the name given to the tops of trees that poke up above the rainforest canopy.	
understory	The understory layer is a range of shrubs, young trees, saplings, palms and vines. It's hot and damp here and the air is very still.	
deforestation	When forests are cut down and the area is permanently cleared for another use.	
endangered	An endangered species is a species which has been categorised as very likely to become extinct.	
indigenous	Indigenous people or things belong to the country in which they are found.	
biomes	Biomes are distinct biological communities that have formed in response to a shared physical climate.	
temperate	Referring to or describing a region or climate characterised by mild temperatures.	
extinction	The extinction of a species of animal or plant is the death of all its remaining living members.	
destruction	The act of destroying something.	
biodiversity	Variety of plant and animal life in a particular habitat, or high level of which is usually considered to be important and desirable.	
Sticky Knowledge		
	Only around 6% of the Earth's land surface is rainforest – but about half of all animal and plant species live there.	
	It can take ten minutes for a falling raindrop to travel from a rainforest's thick canopy to the floor.	
	The Amazon rainforest in South America is so big that if it were a country, it would be the fifth biggest in the world.	

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FOCUS

Topic: This summer term we will be learning about the Rainforest. We will be learning about where they are situated on Earth, what are the main features of a rainforest and what flora and fauna live there.

Science and PHSE: Through the Summer term we shall be studying 'Animals including humans.' The children shall be learning about the main parts of the human circulatory system, they will be able to identify and name the main parts of this system and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood. They will also be learning about healthy eating, and the 'eatwell plate' and how to have a healthy, balanced diet and lifestyle. The children will gain an understanding on how nutrients are

transported around the human body, and how humans change over their lifetime.

In PHSE the year 5s will be looking at how alcohol affects health, the year 6s will be looking at drug awareness. The year 6s will be attending a substance misuse roadshow, which will be held on Thursday 8th June at St Peter's, where the children will have an input from Redcar and Cleveland Council Youth Team. Topics on discussion will be both legal and illegal drug misuse, vaping and nitrous oxide use. Please see Miss Foster if you have any concerns about this as she has the lesson plan available to view.

We have also invited the school nurse team in again for the year 6 children to deliver the growing up talk in the summer term, and for the year 5 girls a talk on puberty. A date is to be confirmed.

RE: We will continue to develop our understanding of our spirituality and we will be discussing what Christ's sacrifice means to Christians during the period of Lent. The children will have opportunity to discuss how Christians live their lives in gratitude for this sacrifice and how they can serve, not just at Easter, but always. We will explore the themes of prejudice and discrimination, particularly in our changing world. We will be revisiting Buddhism and reflecting on the prayers we made on prayer flags back in September and January. The children will make suggestions about how we could apply Buddhist teachings to our own lives and we will hope to fit in another spot of meditation as we all found it so relaxing!

As always, our Christian values will underpin all learning in RE and the children are encouraged to make links between Bible stories and our current topics

Reading: Please continue to hear your child read at home, or sign their book if they have read independently. Ideally, the children will be reading at least three times a week at

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home. There are a range of prizes they can win based on the number of times they have read at home, and it will also help them progress through our whole school reading chart.

PE: Every Tuesday and Friday your child will need to bring their PE kits into school which is a pair of trainers, a pair of shorts/jogging bottoms, a T-shirt - no short tops that expose their stomachs please. Please can you ensure your child has the necessary kit and that if they require an inhaler that they have it with them.

Suncream: For when the weather improves, please make sure that your child has suncream on them before coming to school or have some with them to apply when necessary.

Swimming: The year 5s have been swimming on a Thursday afternoon and we are continuing to work through this cohort. In the second half of the term, we may return to the year 6 children who need to complete their 25 metres certificate. For the children attending, letters will be sent informing the parents about it via Arbor. We aim that all children can swim 25 metres before they leave St Peter's.



Homework: On Tuesdays your child will receive their Literacy homework which is due in on Wednesday. On Wednesday they will receive Numeracy homework which is due in on Thursday. On a Friday they will receive both Literacy and Numeracy homework which is due in the following Monday.

Spellings: In Miss Foster's literacy classes spellings are given out on a Monday, which

they will be tested on a Friday. Mrs Boag's receive theirs on a Friday, for a test on the following Friday.

It is important that your child completes the homework set as it supports the work that they do in class. Please contact any of the teaching staff if there are any problems with the homework that has been set.

SATs: The SATs for the year 6 pupils will be starting on Tuesday 9th May 2023 after the King's Coronation with the SPAG test, Wednesday 10th May Reading, and Maths on the Thursday 11th and Friday 12th May. Further details of a SATs breakfast for the year 6s will follow.

Transition for year 6: Most secondary schools will be offering a one-week transition period during the week beginning Monday 10th July. Schools will be in touch with pupils regarding any information parents or carers need. After this week of transition, the children are expected to return to St Peter's to finish the term in school.

Bikeability: We will be continuing to run our bikeability sessions during the week commencing the 15th and 22nd May. Bikes will be provided for the children, who will be required to bring warm, suitable clothing to wear whilst outside. There will be consent letters sent to those children who have been identified to complete the course, without these being completed the children cannot take part. There has also been a parent's guide shared on the year 5 and 6 page on the school's website for parents to view. Any questions, please contact Miss Foster.

As you can see, we have a lot planned with more to follow.

Thank you for your continued support. Miss Foster, Mr Ormerod, Mrs Boag and Mrs Unthank.