



# Class 5 Curricular

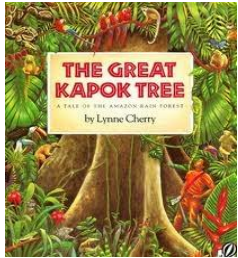
## Spring 2

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! The children have returned from the half term full of energy, enthusiasm and with their usual fantastic attitudes to learning. We have had such a great first week back in class and I am sure the children will have had lots to tell you already.

It's only 26 days until Spring arrives! Bringing lighter nights, warmer days, signs of new life, and growth all around us - a lot to be excited for. It also fits in beautifully with our term topic "How can we look after our world?"

At the start of the week, the children enjoyed our new literacy hook and found our classroom had been transformed yet again! This time, to fit in with our text 'The Great Kapok Tree,' the classroom had turned tropical! With a large tree growing up our literacy wall and a forest in the middle of our carpet! Plus there were lots of plants, greenery and animals that you would find in The Amazon which had appeared all around the children's tables and classroom. Sounds and images of the rainforest filled the room from a carousel of iPad 'information stations'. An amazing start to an exciting term ahead.



During our topic "How can we look after our world?", we will be reading stories set in The Amazon and writing our own fiction and non-fiction texts based on taking care of our planet. In our Geography lessons, we will learn about hot and cold areas of the world, what makes them special and why it is important to protect and look after them. In Science, the children will continue to look at animals including humans, extending from our previous learning of what living things need to survive, to looking at what can keep us healthy and hygienic. We will also look at how different animals grow, as part of which, will include a very exciting trip to release our class trout as they enter the next phase of their Life cycle. In Computing, the children will learn how to code and give a computer instruction and in DT, we will be creating and sampling our very own 'Rainforest smoothies' (further details to follow). All very exciting!



Mrs Fothergill will continue to teach Handwriting and RE, in which Class 5 will explore how symbols help us to understand the Easter Story. Our teaching assistant this half term will be Johnny Robinson.

Thank you again for all your hard work with the children at home, both with their homework and their spellings. I was really impressed by all the homework that was posted onto Seesaw and brought into school at the end of the last half term, it was clear to see how much effort had gone into such creativity.

Please find below information about the various aspects of Class 5 for this half term.



### Homework

Homework will continue to be sent out half termly - each half term you will receive a home learning menu. As explained on the menu, you must complete the maths, reading and writing activities but can choose any two options from the other choices from across the curriculum. The homework menu will allow you to be creative and imaginative in what you decide to produce. The **final** hand in date for the activities this half term will be **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March** and the Homework menu has been sent home tonight with this letter. I look forward to seeing all incredible work the children will undoubtedly produce, and of course, join in and have fun with your child's learning.

### Reading

In daily guided reading and in our phonics sessions, Year 2 will continue to develop their reading skills. This will include word reading and understanding the text. We will change reading books on a Monday and a Friday, but please make sure your child's book bag is in school **every day**. Your child will also have access to more reading books on Bug Club. You can help by:

- ❖ Reading and discussing books on a regular basis to consolidate your child's development. As little as 10 minutes a night makes a huge difference!
- ❖ Access books online on Bug Club: full of wonderful books at your child's reading level.

We will be looking also to develop our understanding. You can help by:

- ❖ Focusing on reading for meaning - predicting what will happen in the story and why, also thinking about the characters feelings. Questions such as 'What do you think . . . will do next?' 'What could happen here?' 'How will that make each character feel?' will help children to develop their reading skills

I will be looking to award reading certificates for those children who demonstrate that they are reading daily as well as rainbow rewards for those children who are accessing Bug Club regularly at home.

### Spellings

Spellings will be given out via Seesaw on a Friday and will be tested the following Friday. The spellings they are given will link to the teaching that we are doing in class. Please also remember to log in to Spelling Shed at home using the login details in your blue password booklet. This is a fantastic resource to practise spellings and spelling patterns that we have been looking at in class.

### Literacy

We will begin our literacy lessons exploring the rainforest through a lovely story called The Great Kapok Tree. Children will imagine what it is like in the rainforest and develop their vocabulary to describe what they might see. They will be learning all about, adverbs, suffixes and noun phrases during this literacy unit and using them to describe all the amazing sights in the rainforest. **You could help by** asking your child to describe the things you see around them using adverbs and noun phrases. Whilst we are reading this story, we will discuss our opinions and talk about what the main character should do. To end the unit Class 5 will write their own story about protecting our planet taking inspiration from The Great Kapok Tree. Later in the half term, Class 5 will read and analyse non-fiction texts and write their own information text with facts about looking after the planet, as well as writing environmental poetry.

## Maths

Class 5 will continue to develop their mathematical skills and knowledge through whole class teaching, group activities, independent tasks and homework..

This half term we will begin to learn all about fractions, we will begin with fractions of shapes and move on to fractions of amounts and then numbers. Alongside our new learning on fractions, we will recap and embed previous learning on addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. I have included practising number bonds to 10 and 20 at home. Number bonds are two numbers which, added together, make either 10 or 20. For example, 3 and 7 is a number bond to 10. 14 and 6 is a number bond to 20. It is very important that children are able to recall these number bonds quickly as they underpin all Maths. **You could help by:**

- ❖ Playing games at home to practise them. Chose a 'bond target', say 10 and then give your child the first number, say 7. Your child has to give you the correct bond to 10, which would be 3. How many can they do in 1 minute?
- ❖ Encouraging your child to practise and develop their knowledge of times tables at home, starting with the 2 times tables. Numberblocks (5-10 minute episodes) on the BBC I-player, have some really catchy songs to help learning the times tables.

## The Half Term Ahead

### **PSHE**

How can we look after each other and our environment?

**Geography**  
Should we look after our world?

### **Music**

What make a good musician?

### **DT**

What would smoothies look like in The Amazon?

### **Literacy**

How can my story persuade the school to look after our world?

### **Science**

Could we convert the PE cupboard into a greenhouse?

### **RE**

How do symbols help us to understand the Easter story??

### **Literacy**

Could I teach another school. About looking after our world?

### **PE**

What makes a good performance?

### **Computing**

Can I tell a computer what to do?

### Days to Remember

Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Change reading and phonics books</li><li>• Maths Quiz</li></ul>
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PE (please come in PE kit)</li></ul>
Wednesday	
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mrs Fothergill teaches RE and maths in the morning</li></ul>
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Spelling Quiz from previous week's spelling list.</li><li>• New spellings given out</li><li>• Change reading and phonics books</li></ul>

- Please send your child to school in their PE kit every Tuesday. This should be a plain red top or St George's PE top and plain black shorts or joggers with pumps/trainers.
- Please also send a water bottle to school with your child every day.

### Dates for your diary

18<sup>th</sup> March 2024 - Trout release date - Children to come to school in appropriate outer clothing for the weather and wellies are **essential**.

26<sup>th</sup> March 2024 - Whole School Easter Worship at Church (drop off at Church)

29<sup>th</sup> March 2024 - School Council Movie Night 3.30 - 5pm

28<sup>th</sup> March 2024 - End of Term

If you have any queries, concerns, or simply a question, please don't hesitate to call or email me or any member of the senior leadership team. We will be more than happy to help! You can send an email to [l.towers@st-georges.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:l.towers@st-georges.lancs.sch.uk)

Best wishes and many thanks,

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