



Class 5 Curricular Letter

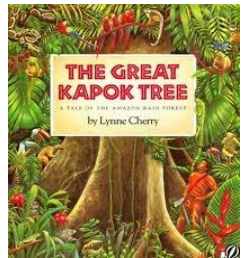


Spring 2

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 a few days until Spring arrives on 1st March, 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?"



On Tuesday, 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! 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 RE and Maths on a Tuesday morning, in which Class 5 will explore how symbols help us to understand the Easter Story.

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 to you half termly - each half term you will receive a Homework Menu. As explained on the Menu, you must complete the Maths, English and RE activities but you can choose any two options from the other choices across the curriculum. The Homework Menu will allow you to be creative and imaginative in what you decide to produce. The hand in date for the activities this half term will be **20th March** and the Homework Menu has been sent out tonight with this letter. I look forward to seeing all the incredible work the children will produce, and of course, please join in and have fun with your child's learning.

Reading

In our Guided Reading sessions, Year 2 will continue to develop their reading skills. This will include word reading and understanding the text. 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

Children can earn reading certificates for the number of days read and the number of books they have read.

Spellings

Spellings will be given out every Friday and will be tested the following Friday. The spellings given 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 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 by revisiting Mass, Volume and Capacity including reading scales and ordering numbers. We will then move onto Addition and Subtraction involving exchange and solving number problems. Another unit on Money will be explored where we will look at finding combinations of coins to make an amount and solving money problems.

. You could help by:

- ❖ Looking at a range of household objects and estimating their mass in grams and kilograms before using measuring scales to find the actual mass.
- ❖ Using coins of all denominations to make different amounts.
- ❖ Continuing to practise the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. These are crucial to know off by heart by the end of Year 2.

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

Can I explore where our food comes from?

Literacy

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

Science

What came first, the trout or the egg?

RE

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

Literacy

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

PE

What do gymnasts look like?

Computing

Can I tell a computer what to do?

Days to Remember

Tuesday	Mrs Fothergill teaches RE and Maths.
Wednesday	<u>Forest school in the afternoon.</u> Check Seesaw for your child's group and ensure outdoor clothing and footwear are brought in a carrier bag.
Friday	PE day - come to school wearing school PE kit. Spelling and number skill focus quiz from the previous week. New spellings and number skill focus given out.

- Please send your child to school in their **school PE kit** every Friday. 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. **This must be filled with water only (no juice).**
- A gentle reminder that earrings, necklaces, bracelets and nail varnish are not part of our school uniform.

Dates for your diary

5th March - World Book Day (dress up)

9th March - Class photographs

11th and 12th March - Parents evening

16th March (pm) - Trout release (please bring outdoor clothes and shoes in a carrier bag)

24th March - Whole school Easter worship at church (drop off at church)

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

a.makepeace@st-georges.lancs.sch.uk

Best wishes and thanks for your continued support,

Angela Makepeace
Class 5 Teacher

Rob Horne
Assistant Headteacher