 Curriculum Newsletter 

Year 7 September - October 2020

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| Literacy:   * Plan and write an explanation on how a rainforest is created using knowledge from the presentation on the Costa Rican Rainforest. * To compose a ‘Black-out’ poem for National Poetry Day around the theme of “Vision”. Revise poetry techniques and associated vocabulary, e.g. similes, metaphors. * Use the PEE format **(POINT EVIDENCE EXPLAIN)** to develop extended reading responses in Year 7. * Spell words containing unstressed vowels in multi-syllable words.   Tips for parents:  Enhance your child’s reading skills by asking them to interpret, predict, deduce and infer. Encourage them to provide evidence from the text to support their answer. Support your child in learning parts of speech: <https://parts-of-speech.info/> Continue to use the ‘L S C W C’ strategy to focus on the difficult spellings from the weekly word list. |
| Numeracy:  Continued revision of all areas of the Mathematics and Numeracy curriculum.   * Read, write and order whole numbers within 10,000 and approximate numbers to the nearest 10, 100, 1,000 * Use the knowledge of multiplying whole numbers by 10 and 100 to explore division by 10 and 100. * Solve worded problems and investigations using numbers * Investigate the symmetry properties of 2D shape * Explore and order fractions: with the same denominator and investigate the equivalence of fractions within fraction families * Read, write and order tenths related to a specific whole number   Tips for parents:  Develop your child’s mathematical vocabulary by encouraging them to use [www.mathsdictionary.com](http://www.mathsdictionary.com) Please ensure your child logs on to the MangaHigh website in order to consolidate in-class learning.  **Your child has also been provided with a ‘Maths Revision’ booklet. Please refer to this regularly.** |
| World Around Us **Topic: Rainforests**   * Use atlases to locate and label the major rainforests of the world. * Find countries/continents that have a range of climates. * Explain the relationship between the location of the rainforests and the tropics. * Sequence and understand the main stages of the Rainforest Water Cycle, specific to Costa Rica. * Discuss the technical language including; cause and effect, condensation, evaporation, water vapour, transpiration, cycle, precipitation, collection, etc.   Tips for parents:  Encourage your child to skim and scan age appropriate websites for relevant information about the Rainforest. e.g. <http://www.rainforest-alliance.org/kids> <https://www.livingrainforest.org/kids/> <https://www.natgeokids.com/> |
| ICT   * Using ‘Black Cat Logo’, direct a rubbish collection truck along a road to the Recycling Centre * Write one sequence of commands to take the truck to the centre * Carry out and edit a series of instructions, make predictions and solve problems using a digital device or environmental (explore) * Make modifications to improve their work (evaluate) * We will recap on the use of Microsoft Teams and other online tasks |

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| Religion   * Appreciate that it is God who is speaking to people through the scriptures and called the prophets to speak his word * List the categories of books in the Old and New Testaments * Recognise that Jesus was the Messiah who God promised through the prophets * Confirmation book- Begin confirmation topics | PDMU   * Work together to create a classroom contract that shows how we have agreed to work as individuals and together * Read Bronagh’s story and discuss their strengths and limitations. * Identify strategies to deal with disappointment. |
| PE   * Pupils will participate in a series of team games and individual challenges focussing on movement skills * Children will participate in a range of fun orientated circuits lessons * Pupils will participate in the ‘Daily Mile’. This will allow the pupils to get daily exercise and plenty of fresh air. | Transfer Preparation   * Pupils will complete one test paper per week until the week beginning Monday 28th September. At this time, we will return to two papers a week. * Practice papers will include GL and AQE papers. * Corrections are to be completed and reviewed at home on the day of the test. * All papers will be reviewed in class prior to being sent home. |
| The Arts  **Art:** Study the work of the artist Rousseau (1844-1910) and use his painting “Tiger in a tropical storm” to create a collage jungle picture. Create curved, zigzag, tall, square, spiky patterns to resemble rainforest plants, trees and flowers and create a ‘portrait’ Rainforest picture. **Music:** Due to current covid restrictions we are unable to sing. However, we will work on musical appreciation and rhythm.  **Drama:** Children will explore a piece of Performance poetry as part of our ‘National Poetry Day’ celebrations. | |
| Focus  **School Rules**  To aid your child’s settling in, please discuss the school rules and the reasons they are needed.  1. We listen carefully and take turns to speak  2. We always try our best  3. We always show respect  4. We walk safely and quietly  5. We play safely and include others | |

**Estimated time to be spent on homework**

Time spent on homework will vary from day to day and also from the beginning to the end of the school year. It is important to remember that it is the quality and not the quantity of homework that matters. The following are guidelines for time spent at homework, including reading homework. *(This is the maximum time any child should spend on homework, which will be differentiated to take into account different abilities).*

Year 1 - 15-20 mins Year 6 - 40-50min

Year 2 - 20-25 mins Year 7 (Term 1) - 60 – 75mins

Year 3 - 20-30 mins Year 7 (Term 2/3) - 30 – 40mins

Year 4 - 30-35 mins

Year 5 - 30-40 mins