



Our topic this term is *Contrasting Environments*. We will be looking at the Arctic & the Rainforest. As part of our topic we will be developing our *Geography* skills, looking at maps and the different environments. We will also be looking at the animals that inhabit these environments. We have arranged

for the rainforest roadshow to come into school to help the children understand more about this habitat. A letter will follow with more information about this.



In science, our topic will be looking at animals including humans. We will be looking at the skeleton, muscles in the body, food chains and what our bodies need.

Our SEAL themes are *Going for Goals* and *Good to be me*. The children will continue to look at the importance of British Values, such as democracy, individual liberty and rules within our society.

In R.E. children will find out about the Bible and why it is important to Christians. We will be thinking about why people pray and what makes a good prayer. The children will then be writing their own prayers.

In Design Technology we will be making frog beanbags, developing our design and sewing skills. In Art we will be looking at the work of Henri Rousseau and developing our painting skills. We will also be producing art work based on the northern lights using pastels.

In ICT children will further develop their coding skills and research the Arctic and Rainforest. E-Safety will continue to be a focus, please discuss this with your child.

In P.E. lessons children will be looking at Dance and Gymnastics and continuing with attacking and defence games during our outdoor P.E. session.

Children will need their indoor and outdoor P.E. kit in school at all times. Please make sure your child has suitable outdoor kit too (including a warm sweatshirt and tracksuit bottoms). They need pumps for indoors and trainers for outdoors.

In Literacy we will be reading texts that involve stories by famous authors such as Michael Morpurgo, non-fiction and a variety of narrative texts, including poetry. We will be following the texts, *The Polar Bear's Son* to introduce our Arctic topic and *The Rainbow Crow* to introduce our Rainforest work. Non-narrative texts and adventure will form the basis of our Rainforest work. We will also be looking at short films to inspire the children's writing about the Rainforest and the Arctic.

We will continue to follow our Spelling scheme where children will be taught spelling patterns and rules, they will have weekly home spellings which will be applied through regular activities in class.

Please help your child by:

- Encouraging your child to read from a wide range of materials, both independently and to an adult for at least 10 minutes each day and sign their diary;
- Reminding them to record their reading in their diary;
- Discussing their reading to ensure understanding;
- Encouraging them to write for pleasure e.g. stories, diaries, letters, e-mails, get them to check these through for correct punctuation being used.
- Please encourage your child to read and research all about the Arctic & the Rainforest.



In Maths we will be covering all areas of the curriculum. It is important that the children practise their tables at home. Please help your child by:

- Encouraging them to **practise their tables** and the corresponding division facts. Children are expected to know all their tables by the end of year 4.
- Taking opportunities to use and apply maths in everyday situations e.g. cooking, shopping and telling the time.
- Playing cards and number board games
- Helping them complete any homework
- Helping them learn to tell the time on digital and analogue clocks



Homework

Please continue to support your child with homework tasks. In addition to specific homework tasks given out on Friday to be completed by Wednesday, children should practise reading, spellings and tables daily.

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Skirving, Mr Kendrick & Miss Hughes



Year 3 & 4 Spring Term 2018 Contrasting Environments

We hope that our overview of this term's topic will provide you with ideas of how to help your child at home.