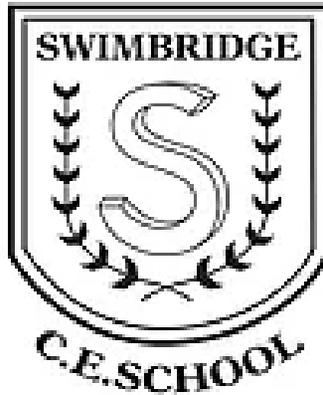


Information for Parents

Autumn Term 2020

Explorers Class



Dear Parents,
Welcome back!

We are looking forward to the term ahead. The theme this term is focusing on 'Rainforests' and in particular 'How the rainforest helps us?' and 'How we can protect the rainforest?'

The Explorers Class have already got stuck into their learning, locating where tropical rainforests can be found and doing some super rainforest animal art for display. Please see the final outcome on Dojo if you haven't already.

Mrs Horsman and Mrs Brookes

How you can help at home:

- Read with your child daily and use focus questions in the front of their reading record.
- Please encourage them to write in their reading record at least 3 times a week.
- Encourage use of TTRS
- Take time to read and understand key topic vocabulary below.

Key Vocabulary

climate	The average weather conditions over a long period of time.
deforestation	The cutting down and clearing of forests.
equator	An imaginary circle running round the centre of the earth.
humid	Feeling very damp due to water vapour in the air.
native tribes	The original settlers of an area.
species	A group of similar animals or plants
weather	The specific condition on a given day.

English

Fiction- The children will be looking at the story of 'Daphne and the Doughnuts' from the online 'Book of Hopes'. They will use the structure to plan and write their own animal based story.

Non Fiction- The children will be reading 'Rainforest Rough Guide' by Paul Mason to create a class rough guide to a particular environment which could be real or imagined. The children will build a varied rich vocabulary and an increasing range of sentence constructions.

Literacy Skills- Children will be taught spelling, handwriting, guided reading and comprehension along with a focus on grammar and punctuation skills.

Science

During the first half of term the children will learn about plants, including their parts and functions, taking part in some investigations to develop their scientific thinking. After half term we will be learning about animals including humans: learning how animals get their nutrition. We will also identify that humans and some animals have skeletons and muscles for support, protection and movement.

Religious Education

The children will be exploring what Christians learn from the creation story. What they think is wonderful about our world and recalling things they have created that they are proud of.

Art/ Design and Technology

Children will exploring some influential artists of South America including watercolour pieces inspired by Henri Rousseau, clay work inspired by Frida Kahlo and puzzle pictures inspired by Torres Garcia. Along with Mural mash ups motivated by Diego Rivera.

Half Term Home Learning Project

Choose ONE of the following:

- Gather pebbles and paint rainforest patterns on them.
- Design a new rainforest animal.
- Research and write an article on how to protect the rainforest.

Share your home learning on dojo rather than bringing it into school.

Geography

Within our topic lessons this term, we will develop our mapping skills by locating the world's countries, using maps to focus on Europe (including the location of Russia) and North and South America, concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries and major cities. Our learning will cover where rainforests can be found, their climate and life within the rainforest. The children will also explore how to protect the rainforest.

Maths

The Explorers class will be learning about number and place value along with developing their confidence and knowledge of addition and subtraction and multiplication and division strategies. Alongside these we will be developing the children's ability to problem solve and reason. There will also be a focus on teaching and learning their times tables.

Physical Education

Ball Skills will develop individual skills and tactics and learn how to apply these in competitive situations. The children will devise their own games and reflect on their performances.

Dance The children will be acquiring and developing skills in dance and gymnastics and the children will be planning, performing and evaluating their own and others' performances.

Forest School

Forest School will be focusing on seasonal themes, learning about our environment. Children will help to create an improved learning environment and start to recognise plants. The children will explore the seasons of autumn and the start of winter.



Computing

The children will learn how to make objects disappear when they are clicked, how to program a sequence of actions, making different pieces of code execute at different times They will learn to write and debug as well as use a program to make simple animations.

Primary Modern Languages

The children in Explorers will be getting to know each other in French by learning how to say hello and introduce themselves. They will also learn how to tell others some basic information about themselves.

Spirituality: The children will develop a greater understanding of nature and looking after our environment.