

Oak Class

Autumn Term newsletter 2022

Welcome to the Autumn Term. It's great to be back; we have enjoyed our first few days as Year 5s and 6s. The children have adapted brilliantly to our new routines in school, demonstrating lots of enthusiasm on their return. We have got lots of exciting activities planned for the children. Our geography topic this term is the Rainforests. We will be looking to link this in Literacy activities to 'The Explorer', written by Katherine Rundell. If you would like to purchase a copy for your child to use in school, that would be great, although there is no obligation. Other links will be made across our Science topics. We will be learning about lifecycles in the first half term and Evolution and Inheritance in the second half term. If you wish to read other recommended books with your child, please see below, along with the main themes of learning so that you may encourage the children at home with their studies at home. There is an upcoming trip; separate details will follow shortly.

Work in Mathematics will include Number and Place Value, Calculations, Fractions and, Measurement. Mathletics is an excellent curriculum resource which I would encourage you to utilise at home with the children to complement work being taught in the classroom. Children can log on wherever they have use of the internet. All children have usernames and passwords in their reading diary. Please encourage your child to practise maths topics at home. We are working through times tables, which we practise most days in school. Again, it would be helpful if you could support your child by helping them to learn these. They need to be able to answer lots of quick-fire multiplication and division questions in a short time to be able to progress to the next level. Most of us know our tables quite well but need to get much faster at recalling the answers! 'Hit the Button' is a great online free resource.

Children have been provided with a new reading book and a reading diary, unless they are reading a book from home that they wanted to carry on with. Please try to read daily with your child. Reading Eggs is another highly useful resource which can be assessed at home as well as in school. There is a huge selection of books to read and quizzes to complete to help improve your child's reading ages. The children are given new spellings every Monday, to learn for a test on the following Monday. These are the Y5 and Y6 recommended words, which the children all have a copy of in their spelling books and Reading Diaries. Please support the children by helping them to practise these at home.

I will use Microsoft Teams for some of the work that we are completing in class, where appropriate. This will be useful for parents to be able to keep track of mathematics and utilise some of our resources if appropriate.

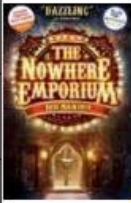

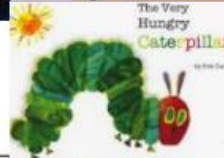
PE will be on Mondays (with Mrs Francis) and Thursdays (with Miss Bateman). Children wearing suitable PE kits to school on both of those days is working well. Please ensure earrings are removed on PE days.

Please see our 'Sticky Knowledge' grids below containing the main themes of learning so that you can support your children at home with their learning.

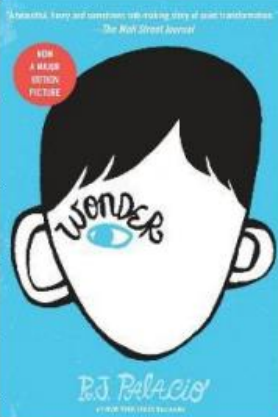
Rainforest KS2 Knowledge Mat

Subject Specific Vocabulary			Exciting Books		
canopy	The canopy , which may be over 30 m above the ground, is made up of the overlapping branches and leaves of rainforest trees.		Sticky Knowledge		
emergent layer	The emergent layer is the name given to the tops of trees that poke up above the rainforest canopy.				
understory	The understory layer is a tangle of shrubs, young trees, saplings, palms and vines. It is hot and damp here and the air is very still.				
deforestation	When forests are cut down and the area is permanently cleared for another use.				
endangered	An endangered species is a species which has been categorized as very likely to become extinct.	Only around 6% of the Earth's land surface is rainforest – but about half of all animal and plant species live there.	Where are the famous rainforests?		
indigenous	Indigenous people or things belong to the country in which they are found	It can take ten minutes for a falling raindrop to travel from a rainforest's thick canopy to the floor.	Amazon, Brazil		
biomes	Biomes are distinct biological communities that have formed in response to a shared physical climate.		Australia, West Africa		
temperate	Relating to or denoting a region or climate characterized by mild temperatures.	The Amazon rainforest in South America is so big that if it were a country, it would be the ninth biggest in the world.			
extinction	The extinction of a species of animal or plant is the death of all its remaining living members.				
destruction	The act of destroying something.				
biodiversity	Variety of plant and animal life in a particular habitat, a high level of which is usually considered to be important and desirable.				

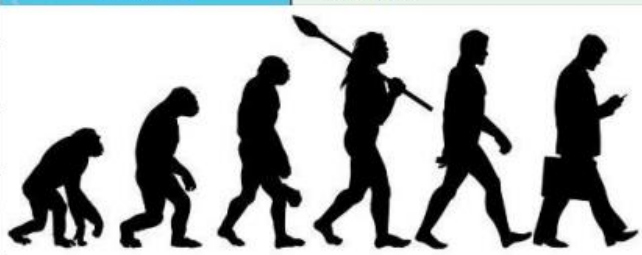
Year 5: Life Cycles Knowledge Mat

Subject Specific Vocabulary		Interesting Books		Sticky Knowledge about Life Cycles			
puberty	Puberty is the name for the time when your body begins to develop and change as you move from childhood to adulthood.			<input type="checkbox"/> The years between 6 and 14 - middle childhood and early adolescence - are a time of important developmental advances that establish children's sense of identity.			
gestation	Gestation, in mammals, is the time between conception and birth, during which the embryo is developing in the uterus.					<input type="checkbox"/> Many insects have four stages in their life cycle: egg or the unborn stage; larva – young stage; pupa – inactive (no feeding) stage; and adult stage.	
classification	This is the grouping together of similar species of plant, animal and other organisms.	Important facts to know by the end of the life cycles topic:		<input type="checkbox"/> In general, the life cycles of plants and animals have three basic stages including a fertilised egg or seed, immature juvenile, and adult. However, some organisms may have more than three life cycle stages, and the exact names of each stage can slightly differ depending on the species.			
precision	For scientists, precision describes a measurement system, that is, how reliable it is at giving the same result every time it measures the same thing.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know the life cycle of different living things, e.g. mammal, amphibian, insect and bird. • Know the differences between different life cycles. • Know the process of reproduction in plants. • Know the process of reproduction in animals. • Create a timeline to indicate stages of growth in humans. 	
reproduction	Reproduction is the way different plants and animals make new plants and animals. The reproduction system differs in plants and animals.						
teenager	The age between thirteen and nineteen. The 'teen' element gives rise to the word teenager. It is a time that humans mature quite rapidly.						
obese	Obesity is the condition of being much too heavy for one's height so that one's health is affected. In other words, it means to be too overweight.						
toddler	Is the period that a young child starts to walk and become more independent.						
embryo	Fertilisation happens when an egg cell meets with a sperm cell and joins with it. The fertilised egg divides to form a ball of cells called an embryo.						

Year 6: Evolution & Inheritance Knowledge Mat

Subject Specific Vocabulary		Interesting Book	Sticky Knowledge about evolution & inheritance
off-spring	When living things reproduce they pass on characteristics to their offspring. All living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring are not identical to their parents.		
adaptation	Adaptation is the process by which animals, plants and other living things have changed so that they better suit their habitat.		
evolution	Evolution is the theory that all the kinds of living things that exist today developed from earlier types.		
inheritance	When living things reproduce they pass on characteristics to their offspring. This is known as inheritance.		
palaeontologist	A palaeontologist is someone studying the life of past geological periods, as known from fossil remains.		
Charles Darwin	Charles Darwin was an English scientist who studied nature. He is known for his theory of evolution.		
genes	Genes that are passed on to you determine many of your traits, such as your hair colour and skin colour.		
chromosomes	Chromosomes are tiny structures inside cells made from DNA and protein.		
syndrome	A syndrome is a genetic condition which can affect learning and physical features.		
genotype	A genotype refers to a particular gene or set of genes carried by an individual.		

- Sticky Knowledge about evolution & inheritance**
- Evolution is a scientific theory used by biologists. It explains how living things changed over a long time, and how they have come to be the way they are.
 - We know that living things have changed over time, because we can see their remains in the rocks.
 - We know that the animals and plants of today are different from those of long ago.
 - Evolutionary questions are still being actively researched by biologists.



If you have any questions, then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs T. Francis