St John's Primary School





This term our values will be **kindness** and **responsibility**.

PE days Autumn 1:

Year 5: Tuesday and Friday

Year 6: Monday and Tuesday

PE days Autumn 2:

Year 5: Thursday and Friday

Year 6: Monday and Thursday

Years 5 and 6 Coffee Morning: Friday 15th September (9:15am)

Bikeability YEAR 6: week beginning 2nd October

Parents' evening: Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th October

Harvest Service: Thursday 19th October (10am)

Half term (school closed): Monday 23rd-Friday 27th October

INSET DAY (school closed): Monday 30th October

Flu Immunisation: Wednesday 1st November

Individual and siblings photos: Wednesday 15th November

Christmas Service (10am) and end of Autumn term (pick up at 2pm): Friday 15th December

Milestone 3 (Years 5 & 6) Autumn Term 2023







THE BIG IDEA (Autumn 1) It's a Jungle Out There! (Rainforests)

Rainforests once covered 20% of our world's surface. Now they cover only 5%. Every second, an area of the rainforest the size of a football field is being destroyed. Some scientists believe that, if we lose our rainforests, we might put our whole planet at risk. What will we do to help save the rainforest?

As readers we will:

 Read The Firework-Maker's Daughter by Philip Pullman and The Explorer by Katherine Rundell to continue to practise our reading fluency and skills: vocabulary, inference, prediction, explain, retrieval and summarise.

As writers we will write:

- Portal stories
- Persuasive texts (non-fiction)
- Narratives

As geographers we will learn:

- What a biome is and how biomes and climate zones are linked
- About where rainforests are in the world
- About the physical features of a rainforest (layers)
- About how and why rainforests are being destroyed (focus on deforestation)
- What people are doing to save rainforests (conservation)
- About the freshwater biome

As historians we will:

- Locate modern day Iraq and the surrounding countries in the Middle East
- Study Baghdad, the most influential city in early Islamic civilization
- Understand the role of the Silk Road in trade and spread of ideas

THE BIG IDEA (Autumn 2) Early Islamic Civilisations and Baghdad

While Europe was in a period called 'the Dark Ages', early Islamic societies were developing scientific thinking, medicine, literature and prosperous trade routes. This period of time, from the 8th century to the 14th century, is called the Golden Age of Islam. We will examine the legacy of this and learn more about the history of a non-European society.

As scientists we will learn:

YEAR 5

- Materials and their properties
- Forces

YEAR 6

- Living things and their habitats
- Electricity

As mathematicians we will learn:

YEAR 5

- Place value (numbers to 1,000,000)
- Addition and subtraction
- Multiplication and division
- Fractions

YEAR 6

- Decimals and percentages
- Place value (numbers to 10,000,000)
- Four operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division
- Fractions

We will also learn **Art** (drawing in perspective with a focus on Camille Pisarro), **DT** (spaghetti Bolognese), **RE** (Judaism and Christianity), **PSHE**, **Music**, **French**, **Computing** and **PE** (including **Gymnastics**).

How you can help at home:

- Make sure your child reads aloud to you daily and that you record it in their reading record (5 times a week).
- Make sure your child completes their weekly homework: maths and spelling.