



**Dallington CEP
The Street
Dallington
East Sussex
TN21 9NH**

Dallington Church of England Primary School Spring 2020



**Brightling Class
Year 5 / 6
2019-2020**

Dear parents /guardian (s)

I hope you have all had an enjoyable and restful Christmas– the children have returned to school refreshed and ready for this term's learning. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy New Year. It has been lovely being with your children again and hearing all about the wonderful time they had over Christmas. I would also like to say thank you for all my lovely cards and gifts.

We have a really busy but exciting half term planned. Please could I ask for your help by making sure your children are encouraged to read regularly at home and practise their times tables to improve their mental maths skills and complete their homework which should be handed in on Mondays.

This term our topic is *Humble in the Jungle* which is geography and science based . We will be learning all about Brazil and exploring the diversity of life the Amazon Rainforest holds. The children will find out where Brazil is in the world, find out about the climate, the people and life in Brazil. Furthermore, we will be looking at deforestation and land use.

This term Mrs Bartley will be working both with our class and Bodle Street class as our teaching assistant to cover Mrs Langley's maternity leave. She will also be covering the class Wednesday afternoons.

Please remember that the children should have a full PE kit in school all the time, the kit should all be named so it can be returned correctly. Children **will not be allowed to participate** in PE if they do not have a full kit; we have PE on a Monday and Friday.

I am excited about 2020 and look forward to continuing working with you in anticipation of all your support with the children . In the meantime, if you have any questions ,please do not hesitate to pop in and see me.

Kind regards

Ms White

Literacy Links

In **English**, we will dip in to parts of The Jungle Book and Katherine Rundell's gripping story - The Explorer - about children who become stuck in the Amazon Rainforest; this will also be our class reader. The children will produce a range of fiction and non-fiction writing both in topic and in English lessons. We will continue learning most of our SPAG objectives through our class texts but in order to ensure SATS coverage there will be some stand alone lessons. Please encourage your children to use Standard English and also discuss formal/informal language at home and outside school when opportunities arise.

In the next two terms, we will focus heavily on retrieval and inference skills in preparation to SATS. There will be a meeting for Year 6 parents to discuss how you can support your child at home.

We will continue with our Vocabulary Ninja work to support our reading and writing skills.

Mathematics

In Maths, the children will be learning about percentages and how to solve problems with these. They will also learn about ratio, algebra, measures and statistics. We will also spend time revising key concepts such as place value - including decimals - and the four operations.

KS2 Maths SATS Organiser

Science

In Science, the children are going to use their learning of animals in the rainforest to look at how they have adapted to their environment and special body features they have in order to survive. We will also listen to music from the rainforest and recreate this in our own compositions.

We will also look at how living things are classified and find the answers to questions;
What common characteristics do vertebrates and invertebrates have?
Why do scientists need to classify animals, plants including microorganisms?

Geography

-Identify the position and significance of Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn.
-Describe and understand key aspects of physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers.

Not only will children gain an understanding of the different layers that make up a rainforest, they will also develop their knowledge of plants and animals that can be found within each layer. Later in the unit, we will be studying how tribes live deep within the rainforest in harmony with their surrounding environment.

Art/ DT

The rainforest topic will continue in art where children will choose an animal to sketch in detail and then use oil pastels to focus on different parts of the animal. We will be **drawing and painting** in the style of HENRI ROUSSEAU

In **DT** we will be creating our own carnival masks using the rainforest as our inspiration.

PSHE

The children will look at setting learning goals and work out the learning steps they need to take to reach their goal whilst understanding how to motivate themselves to work on these. We will also discuss how we can make a difference and work with other people to make the world a better place to end the sufferings of less fortunate people.

PE

This term the focus will be on more invasion games and dance. The children will also learn about the Brazilian Carnival and re-enact some of its celebrations by learning how to samba dance which dates back to the 16th century.

RE

Within RE, we will be looking at Creation and Fall – ways of understanding Genesis whilst discussing Christian views on religion and science.

Computing

In ICT we will recap on using technology safely, respectfully and responsibly; recognise acceptable/unacceptable behaviour; identify a range of ways to report concerns about content and contact.

Children will also be introduced to programming with Kodu, a simple visual programming language made specifically for creating games. The distinguishing features of Kodu are visual icons that are added together like building blocks to form instructions and game environments constructed by the user in a 3D scene editor.