

## St John's Walham Green C of E Primary School

### Information for Parents – Spring

**Year Group: 4    Term: Spring    Class Teacher: Mrs Celikcan and Miss Reay    Date: January 2019**

Our main topic this term is 'Rainforests and Rivers'.

#### **REGULAR TASKS**

**Reading:** Please find time to read with your child every day for around 20 minutes away from the TV or loud music and ensure you sign and date their Reading Records. Children who are reading at level 13 and beyond should write their own comments, but please still check that your child is reading regularly. Your child will also take part in a weekly 'Guided Reading' session with their class teacher.

**Spelling:** Children will continue to receive their RESCUE sheets – the spellings will be linked to the weekly spelling lessons and revisited during the week, but they should also practise them at home and complete their spelling sentences. The children will be tested on these after the homework is handed in.

**Literacy:** We will begin the term by reading *African Tales*, a collection of short stories from all over Africa. We will work on developing our descriptive language skills and finding ways to extend our sentences by using fronted adverbials, conjunctions and prepositions. We will then move onto reading the Ted Hughes classic *The Iron Man*. We will be looking at imagery, including similes and metaphors, and using the book as inspiration to write a diary entry and newspaper report.

**Maths:** This term we will begin our work on fractions, looking at more complex fraction problems and practising our fluency with equivalent fractions, mixed numbers and improper fractions. The children will also be working on time, including worded problems and analogue as well as 12 and 24 hour digital times, then later moving on to decimals (to two decimal places). The children should continue to learn all number facts, including times tables, halves and doubles and associated division facts.

**Science:** In science we will be looking at habitats and classifying living things, associating this to our topic work on rainforests.

**Computing:** In Computing we will be working on exploring and making databases, powerpoint presentations and later we will move onto animations.

**Topic:** We will be finding out about rainforests and their importance to the world, including where they are located, the differences between tropical and temperate and the human impact on the rainforest environment. After half term, we will begin our work on rivers and the Thames.

**PE:** We will have PE on **Monday (Gym) and Tuesday (PE)**. Your child will be expected to have their PE kit in school throughout the week and it will be sent home to wash at the half term.

**RE:** We will be learning about what it means to be a Buddhist, beatitudes and what they mean to Christians.

**French/Mandarin:** Your child will continue to take part in a weekly mandarin session on Tuesday (4R), Wednesday (4C) and French session on a Friday.

**Art:** Over the course of this term, we will be using a range of media to create an Andy Warhol-inspired rainforest picture.

**Music:** In Music lessons the children will be continuing to learn to play the descant recorder and will be working towards their orange Recorder Karate belt. They will also be attending a workshop given by Albert's Band in preparation for attending the Classical Music Spectacular concert at the Royal Albert Hall on 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

**Homework:** Your child will homework each week in relation to the work we have been doing in school to support their learning and skills. This will be given out on a **Friday** and will be due back in on a **Wednesday**.

**Library:** Our library sessions will be on Friday (4C) and Wednesday (4R) when children can change their books. If a book goes missing then a note will be sent home asking parents to either replace or pay for the book. Children will not be able to borrow a new book until the missing one is replaced.

**A small amount of dedicated time at home each day for reading/homework will help your child to reinforce their learning and progress well.**

*You are always welcome to come and see us with any questions or if you would like further advice or ideas of how you could further help your child at home.*

**Class Teachers:**

Mrs. Celikcan and Miss Reay

**Head of School:**

Ms. Wightwick