

# Year 2 – Spring Term

Happy New Year, and welcome back to Maney Hill in 2018. It's lovely to see all of the children back after Christmas and eager to start the new term. As the weather improves, in 2W classroom things are turning tropical, because this term our new topic is **Rainforests!**

## Geography

We will be learning all about the rainforests of the world. We will learn about the continents, oceans and geographical features associated with these regions. We will begin to understand why the weather along the equator is hotter than where we live in a temperate climate. We will be focusing on the Amazon rainforest in particular, learning about how important the river is to the plants and animals which live nearby!

## Art and DT

This term, we will be sketching and collaging to create some of the rainforest animals. In DT we will be designing and creating mini-rainforests.

## English

We will be reading 'The Tunnel' by Anthony Brown' and doing some writing based on this book. This will include writing a book review. We will also be using 'Meerkat Mail', to write stories in our own words, to write in character, and explore the features of non-fiction texts.

Linked to our Rainforests topic, later in the term we will be reading 'The Great Kapok Tree'. The story explores the ideas of deforestation. In the book, different rainforest animals try to convince a tree logger not to cut down the sacred Kapok tree. In our lessons, we will be writing vivid rainforest descriptions, empathising with the animals of the rainforest and writing arguments for and against cutting down trees in the rainforest.

## Maths

In Maths this term, we will be continuing to focus on number and place value. We will be practising using the blank number line for calculations. This can be found in our school's calculation policy. Lessons will also focus on statistics and properties of different shapes. We will be working on our 3 times tables and strategies for answering arithmetic questions.

## PE

Please ensure that children have their PE kits in school on Tuesday and Wednesday. This term we will be doing gymnastics and swimming (details to follow shortly). We also have the opportunity to work with specialist coaches to support our learning.

## Science

Our Science topic this half term will be Mini Worlds. We will be learning how to use microscopes to look at things in more detail and see things that we cannot normally see with the naked eye.

Next half-term our topic is 'Move it!' We will be making our own flying fish and straw rockets and investigating how we can make them move faster and further!

## Homework

Homework will be set on a Friday, to be handed in by the following Wednesday. It will be English or Maths based and may include some practise questions and papers in readiness for the Year 2 SATs tests in May. Reading books will be changed on a Tuesday and a Thursday.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any concerns or queries throughout the term, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards

Mr Wigley