

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! We hope you enjoyed the Christmas break with your families and feel rested for 2024.

This letter is to give you information about the Spring term, including educational visits. Should you have any further queries, you are of course always welcome to book an appointment at the school office to see your child's teacher at any time.

Dates for Your Diary

January 8 th	Clubs start
February 9 th	Wear something Red with school uniform (Heart Month Fundraising)
February 9 th	End of term
February 19 th	Back to school
15 th March	Open Afternoon (2.45pm)
15 th March	Clubs End
March 19 th	Parents' Evenings
March 21 st	Parents' Evenings
March 21 st	Rainforest Workshop
March 28 th	End of term
April 15 th	Return to school for Term 5

Rainforest Workshop – March 21st

Linking with our Rainforests topic, each class will have a session with an enthusiastic expert, learning about and meeting some interesting creatures from rainforest climates. In the past this has included chameleons, snakes, spiders, frogs, and many more! Children are encouraged to touch or hold these when given permission, but it is not an expectation to do so if they are worried. We find that children are always very proud of themselves after these sessions and thoroughly enjoy the experience. A separate email will be sent out closer to the time with payment details.

Topics

This list is not definitive but it gives you a broad outline of the areas being addressed this term. In order to aid your child's research, our topics for the Spring term are:

- **Literacy:**
 - *The Explorer* (Katherine Rundell)
 - *The Highwayman* (Alfred Noyes)
 - Whole-school text (to be revealed later this term)
 - Rainforest balanced argument

Feel free to purchase a copy of these texts for your child to bring in to school, but please wait to read them until we have introduced them in class.

- **Maths:** Multiplication and division, fractions, decimals and percentages, perimeter and area, and statistics
- **Science:** The Rainforest Environment and All Living Things

- **Geography:** Rainforests
- **Computing:** Data Handling (Excel) and Programming
- **RE:** What Would Jesus Do? Can we live by the values of Jesus in the 21st Century?
- **Art:** Collage. Rainforest art based on the colour wheel.
- **DT:** CAMS
- **Music:** Kapow Music Scheme

A full curriculum overview of the year can be found on the Year 5 part of the Amherst School website.

Homework

Homework, consisting of English, MA and spellings, will continue in the same fashion as last term. Please ensure it is handed in on time, planners signed by an adult at home, and work completed with care and attention to detail.

Classroom Equipment

Please can you check with your child that they have all of the necessary equipment in school, including a handwriting pen, 30cm ruler, scissors, spare glue and black dry wipe pens.

Games and PE

Children should have their PE kit in school every day; please ensure all items are named. You are welcome to send your child in with hats, gloves or additional layers if the weather is particularly cold.

5A	5J	5S
Games on a Wednesday	Games on a Wednesday	Games on a Wednesday
PE on a Friday	PE on a Friday	PE on a Friday

Many thanks for your continued support,

Mrs A. Archer

Miss P. Jones

Mr S. Hafford-Robson