



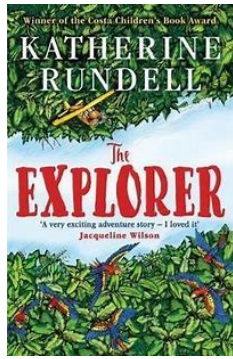
Saint Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

Derwent Lent I Newsletter

Welcome back, I hope you had a lovely Christmas break! Here's an overview of what we will be learning about in Derwent this half term.

English

From his seat in the tiny aeroplane, Fred watches as the mysteries of the Amazon jungle pass by below him. He has always dreamed of becoming an explorer. As the plane crashes into the canopy, Fred is suddenly left without a choice. He and the three other children may be alive, but the jungle is a vast, untamed place. With no hope of rescue, the chance of getting home feels impossibly small. Except, it seems, someone has been there before them ...



We will be reading the story of 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell during our guided reading sessions, as well as using the text as a writing stimulus for adventure narratives. We will be retelling the first chapter of the book to capture Fred's response to the airplane crashing combined with a description of the rainforest.

We will also be completing some non-fiction writing based on the rainforest, including creating instructions for surviving in the rainforest as well as learning about a journalistic style of writing.

RE

Mission: Life choices

We will be learning about Jesus' mission during his preaching and teaching. We will be learning about the people who helped Jesus on his mission, such as the apostles. We will be answering the question 'What is a diocese?', as well as thinking about people who were inspired to follow Jesus Christ.

Memorial sacrifice

We will be thinking about the Passover, retelling the events of the Exodus, as well as remembering the Last Supper. We will be exploring the Eucharist as a memorial. We will be discussing different hymns and their meanings, making links to the Eucharistic prayer and scripture.

Maths

Using White Rose Maths, we will be covering the following areas of learning;

Year Four

Multiplication and Division:

- Using factor pairs
- Multiplying by 10 and 100
- Dividing by 10 and 100
- Using related facts
- Informal written methods of multiplication
- Multiply a 2 or 3– digit number by a 1– digit number
- Divide a 2 or 3– digit number by a 1–digit number
- Correspondence problems
- Efficient multiplication

Length and perimeter:

- Measure in kilometres and metres
- Equivalent lengths (kilometres and metres)
- Perimeter on a grid
- Perimeter of a rectangle/rectilinear shapes
- Find missing lengths
- Perimeter of polygons

Year Five

Multiplication and Division:

- Multiply a 4–digit number by a 1–digit number
- Multiply a 2, 3 or 4 digit number by a 2–digit number
- Solve problems with multiplication
- Short division
- Divide a 4–digit number by a 1–digit number
- Divide with remainders
- Efficient division

Fractions

- Multiply a unit fraction by an integer
- Multiply a non-unit fraction by an integer
- Multiply a mixed number by an integer
- Calculate a fraction of a quantity
- Fraction of an amount
- Find the whole
- Use fractions as operators



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Science

Year Four - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

During this topic, the children will

- Examine the waste produced from a typical lunchbox
- Recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things
- Plan and set up a simple comparative test for plant growth
- Make recommendations to reduce our carbon footprint
- Analyse rainfall data and use it to answer a scientific question
- Use results from a comparative test to draw conclusions

Year 5- Living things and their habitats

During this topic, the children will

- Recap the seven life processes
- Describe how some plants reproduce
- Describe how some mammals reproduce
- Describe the life cycles of different mammals in different habitats
- Explain what Jane Goodall discovered about chimpanzees
- Compare the life cycles of amphibians, insects, mammals, birds and plants

Geography

We will be studying rainforests. During this topic, the children will

- Identify areas of the world containing rainforests using maps and atlases
- Describe the key aspects of a tropical climate
- Understand the features of the layers of the rainforest
- Describe the animals and plants living in the rainforest
- Compare the Amazon rainforest with a forest in the UK
- Explain the effects humans are having on the rainforests

How can you help?

This half term, the children in Derwent will have P.E. on Monday. Year 4 children continue to have swimming lessons on **Fridays**.

Homework is set on a Monday and is due the following Monday. Please ensure work is completed in pencil

Spellings are tested on a Friday, and a new list is given out on Fridays. Spellings can be accessed on Spelling Shed and the children's logins are in their reading diary.

Spelling Shed/Maths Shed - please ensure your child is accessing these regularly at home. It will help to embed their spellings and improve fluency particularly with times tables.