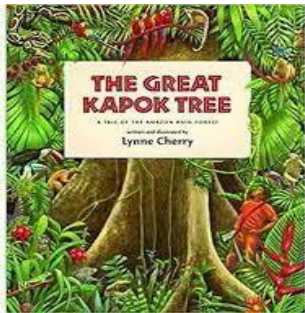


Year 3 Spring 2024 Newsletter.

Hello from Year 3! We can't believe we have already come to the end of the spring term and are two thirds of the way through Year 3! We have had an action packed, enjoyable term and everyone has been working very hard!

Our topic this term was 'The Rainforest'. We started off by finding out all about the locations of the Earth's tropical rainforests and completed some detailed map work, as you can see. We looked at the layers of the rainforest and which animals live in each layer. We also found facts about rainforest plants, discussed how important they are for the advance of modern medicines and their role in preventing aspects of climate change. We discussed conservation and the negative impact that logging is having on huge areas of the rainforest and the animals that live there.



The children used a book by Lynne Cherry, called "The Great Kapok Tree," to explore different writing genres. They wrote persuasive letters to an imaginary logging company, to explain that the rainforests need protection. They also imagined that they had discovered a new rainforest animal and wrote notes and a non-chronological report about their discovery, as well as writing some kennings about different rainforest creatures. The children have used their chrome books to research lots of rainforest facts.

In Numeracy the children have covered the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) using mental and formal methods and have also explored perimeter and fractions. The children have worked hard to hone their arithmetic skills, with regular informal tests to develop their knowledge. Many Year 3 children have already got their Bronze, Silver and Gold times tables awards. They will continue to be tested on their times tables and related division facts to make sure as many as possible get their awards before the end of the Summer term. The children have really enjoyed using 'Times Tables Rock Stars' and 'Hit the Button' to help them to achieve this. We are very proud of them for their ongoing commitment to learning their tables facts and we look forward to giving out more awards next term.



As part of this term's topic, the children have completed some beautiful artwork, including drawing chameleons and other rainforest animals, shading tropical leaves and creating some lovely collages, using a range of media.





In Science, the children have found out about Forces and Magnets. They have investigated how magnetic poles repel or attract and sorted objects into those that are magnetic and non-magnetic. They have devised their own experiments to test friction and measured their results using a Newton meter. Recently they have started learning about plants and have been on a nature walk around the school grounds to observe plants in real life. They have been learning about the different parts of the plant and their functions and have started to design and carry out experiments and investigations of their own. For example, working in groups to see what would happen when food colouring is put into water and celery is added, to explore how water and nutrients travel around a plant. They made predictions and are waiting to find out whether their predictions are correct! We will be continuing with our plant topic next half term when they will be investigating the best conditions for plants to grow, learning about seed dispersal and growing their own plants.

The children had fun during Science Week. They designed their own sustainable farms, carried out investigations on how to get Humpty Dumpty down from a wall safely and created an investigation to test air resistance, by making parachutes. On World Book Day everyone dressed up as a Science word and looked amazing! Alan, the bird man, visited school and brought in 3 birds of prey (an owl, and eagle and a hawk). Everyone learnt lots and we were very excited when he flew the birds over our heads! Afterwards, we carried out research on owls and ostriches, using a variety of books, texts and our Chromebooks, to create non-chronological reports. Some of these will become part of a whole school Science book. On the last day of Science Week, we had a super play session using different Science resources. This was great fun, just exploring and investigating with our friends!



Year 3 really enjoy learning French every week with Madame Wills. They have played lots of games and sung songs to learn how to count, greet each other and name animals and colours in French. The children also like using their chrome books and "Languagenut" to support their learning.

Mrs Firth, our amazing Music teacher, has been looking at music from Africa, with Year 3. They have learnt an African song, and looked at the instruments that are native to the people of different tribes. They have also been performing, as a class, a piece of drumming based on African rhythms, and composing their own rhythms too.

Year 3 have continued to enjoy weekly sessions with a specialist P.E. coach, where they have invented dance sequences and developed their ball skills.

Finally, it just remains to say thank you for all of your support this term and to wish you all A very Happy Easter holiday.

With best wishes from Miss Bethel, Mrs Turner, Mrs Reid, Mrs Finch, Mrs Moore, Mrs Sietnik, Mrs Gordon and Mrs Geary.