



Head Teacher: Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

Aim High

Never Give Up

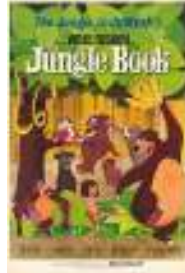
Follow Your Dream

Lead By Example

February 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

We look forward to Spring Term 2 in Year 5. Our curriculum theme will be **The Jungle Book**.



MAIN LEARNING THEME

The themes are geography and science based, but will include art and music too. We will be looking at jungle plant life, jungle animal life, how we can save our jungles, and jungle music! We will spend some time looking at the life of author Rudyard Kipling, as next term we will be studying the genre of biographies. In keeping with the jungle theme, we will paint in the style of French artist Henri Rousseau, who portrayed fantasy jungle scenes. This theme will be the basis for our whole school production at The Voyager School.

Key Vocabulary:

Jungle, rainforest, adaptation, eco-system, food chain, life cycle, conservation, camouflage, environment, carnivorous, mammal, amphibian, naturalist

MATHS

We will be covering the following topic areas in Maths in the second half of Spring term:

- **Reflections and translations**
- **Adding and subtracting fractions**
- **Division: mental and written methods**
- **Mass**

Children need to continue to learn their multiplication facts up to 12 x 12 as this will help them with their mathematical workings. Regular tables practice is included in weekly homework tasks.

ENGLISH

In Literacy and Language, we will be continuing our work on **biography and autobiography**, followed by **stories from another culture**. Then, we will look at the cultural and geographical contexts of stories and also, characterisation. The outcome from this will be that children write their own adventure in a similar narrative style.

Suggested wider reading:

Dragon Slayer by Gill Howell
Jeremy Strong biography and autobiography
Anthony Horowitz biography
How to Train a Dragon (series) – Cressida Cowell
Dragon Rider – Cornelia Funke
The Dragonkeeper trilogy – Carole Wilkinson
Working with Dragons – Helen Ward
The Hobbit – JR Tolkien
Secret of the Sirens – Julia Golding
The Kraken
A Dragon Spotter's Guide to the Chinese Lung Dragon



Children should continue to read and discuss an increasingly wide range of fiction, poetry, plays, non-fiction and reference books or textbooks.

PE

PE will be covered in two one-hour sessions each week. Please ensure your child has both indoor and outdoor kit in school with them all week. Please send this kit in with your child on Monday and take home on Friday of each week to be washed. Children with long hair will need to have it tied back for safety reasons. Stud earrings (only) are allowed in school, which will have to be removed by the child, or covered with a plaster. Please ensure that your child has a clean PE kit each week. Trainers are essential for outdoor PE at this time of year and they will need a warmer top and track suit bottoms as well when the weather is cold.

HOME LEARNING

Your child will receive a Maths and an English homework task each week. The homework will be given out on Wednesday after school, to be returned the following week on Wednesday morning.

In addition to this, your child can choose to undertake a half-term home learning '**POWER** project', which could be the focus of their homework for the beginning of the term. Ideas of what this could cover are '**Animals and their Habitats**', '**Rainforests**' or '**The Life and Work of Henri Rousseau**'. Activities should include opportunities to:

- **Develop creativity**
- **Explore mathematical skills**
- **Extend research skills**
- **Explore the locality**

This project is not compulsory, but is a fantastic way to involve family and friends in their learning. This can involve the whole family and should be linked to our topic theme; the more creative the better! Your child can use the Internet to carry out research, create PowerPoints, use photographs, diagrams with annotations etc.

READING

Please continue to read with your child at home. Each week, they will be given 1 or 2 reading books which they can share with you at home and will be changed weekly. Year 5 have the opportunity to visit the library and learn about all the different types of books and how to use a library.

BREAK TIME SNACK

A piece of fruit for break time snack is appropriate. Please remember that we encourage healthy eating. We must also remind you that we are a nut free school. Do not send your child to school with any food item containing nuts.

SCHOOL MEALS

A hot school meal is available each day. Please ensure that this is paid for in advance using our ParentPay system.

END OF THE DAY

Please feel free to use this time to talk to us about any concerns you may have, however if you need more than a few minutes then you can always make an appointment for a more convenient time.

Mrs Marlow
Class Teacher

Mrs McFarland
Teaching Assistant

Mrs Gill
Teaching Assistant

Mrs Reynolds
Head Teacher

