

ENGLISH

This half term the children will be focusing on persuasive letter writing. They will have the opportunity to read and discuss a number of examples, unpicking how persuasion works and how such letters should be structured. Letters of this kind offer us a good opportunity to practice formality as well as the chance to use a wider range of conjunctions (such as: therefore, furthermore, for example and additionally). The children's letters will focus on environmental issues – most notably the use of palm oil, and they will have the opportunity to send their letters to influential companies and politicians.

GEOGRAPHY

The children will be finding out about rainforests and where they are located in the world. They will learn about the layers in rainforests and how these enable different animals to create their homes. Deforestation will be explored with the children; examining how and why this habitat is being destroyed. In addition, the children will enhance their knowledge about rainforest animals and plants.

SCIENCE

In the science topic 'animals and their habitats', children will gain an understanding of how different species are uniquely suited to their environments. They will also look at the ways in which these species are dependent on each other and their native habitats for survival. This work will complement their study of the rainforest in geography and will further highlight the need for conservation.



MATHEMATICS

This half term the children will consolidate their knowledge of fractions such as how to order different fractions on a number line and use their multiplication and division skills to simplify and work out equivalent fractions. We will also be looking at addition and subtraction, using the compact 'column' method for both. Time will also be a focus, including how to read a 24-hour clock, change time from hours to minutes and solve word problems by working out time intervals.

COMPUTING

Children are learning how to collect and sort data about a variety of topics, and are starting to use graphing tools that can help visualise information accurately in different contexts. Thereafter they will compare and contrast the best ways to show information visually.

ART AND DESIGN

Linked to science and geography, the children will be exploring the role of nature in art, with particular reference to Henri Rousseau and his painting *Surprise!* They will compare this piece of artwork with others. Children will have the opportunity to draw flowers and plants developing their sketching and observational drawing skills. They will then create a mixed media collage of rainforest scenes.

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION

Our PSHE unit is called 'Celebrating Difference' and focuses on similarities and differences. Within this unit we will discuss the importance of diversity and areas such as disability, racism, power, friendships and conflict; children will learn to accept everyone's 'right to difference' as part of a respectful and tolerant society.

GODWIN JUNIOR SCHOOL



Y4 SPRING TERM SECOND HALF

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

RE

In RE the children consider the question – Why is Easter important to Christians? In this unit the children will learn about why and how Easter is celebrated by Christians throughout the world. Events such as Palm Sunday and the Last Supper will be studied and discussed.

PE

The children will cover exercise for fitness and core strength at home, along with dance. In school the focus will be athletics: building stamina and fitness levels; learning good posture; running and throwing efficiently and developing power when jumping.