

Curriculum Newsletter

Year 3 – Spring 2026

This term our learning journey is Rainforest Adventure. The children enter the classroom to see the scene of the rainforest, with small plane parts scattered around. A large Kapok tree stands in the corner. Children find a partly torn map and a newspaper reporting on a crashed plane containing 120 pupils from Glynne Primary School whose location is currently unknown.

Children find themselves within a rainforest environment.

We need to investigate where we are and what type of habitat this is.

We are scientists

Science knowledge and skills will include:

- Identify and describe the functions of different parts of flowering plants.
- Explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal.
- Explore the layers of the rainforest – types of plants/trees found at each layer.
- Construct and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey.
- Recognise that environments can change and affect living things.
- Understand the effects of global warming and deforestation on the rainforest habitat.

We are geographers

Geography knowledge and skills will include:

- locate world countries, with a focus on South America, and where rainforests are found across the world.
- Identify the position of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn.
- Understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of the UK and a region of South America (Amazon).
- Look at different types of settlement and land use.
- Complete an in-depth study of the Amazon Rainforest.

English

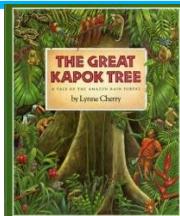
Key Text – The Great Kapok Tree

Grammar

To use punctuation accurately.

To use fronted adverbials.

Use of determiners such as 'a' and 'an'.



Writing

Use appropriate grammar and vocabulary to create a narrative and description.

Use simple organisational devices to create a variety of non-fiction pieces.

Write poetry using emotive language.

Expressing time and cause using conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions.

Evaluate and edit writing and proposing changes.

Improve the legibility, consistency and quality of handwriting.

Maths

Estimate and use inverse operations to check answers to a calculation.

Count up and down in tenths.

Identify right angles.

Identify symmetrical and non-symmetrical 2D and 3D shapes.

Multiply two-digit numbers by a one-digit numbers.

Read Roman numerals to 100 (I to C) and know that over time, the numeral system changed to include the concept of zero and place value.

Estimate and read time with increasing accuracy to the nearest minute

Convert between different units of measure.

TT Rock Stars

Access Times Table Checker Target: 25/25

<https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/>

PSHE/RSE

The children will be focussing on communities, cultures and families and comparing them in different environments.

Physical Education – Knowledge and skills

The children will be learning tag rugby and swimming and developing the skills needed for these activities.

Music – Knowledge and Skills

Children will be continuing to learn to play the recorder, focussing on reading music and performing pieces they have learned.

Computing – Knowledge and Skills

We will be designing and coding a program that follows a simple sequence. They will learn how to explain what an algorithm is, detect and correct errors within their code.

Art – Knowledge and skills

We will be mixing a variety of colours and understand which colours are primary and which are secondary colours. We will be improving our mastery of art techniques.

DT – Knowledge and skills

We will be designing and making packaging for fair trade chocolate. We will then be evaluating our packaging. We will be continuing with our cooking in the curriculum.

Rights Respecting Schools

Article 24

You have the right to clean, safe water to drink, nutritious food and a clean and safe environment to live.

RE – Knowledge and skills

We will be focusing on Hinduism, their places of worship, artefacts connected to the religion and the act of worship itself. We will be learning about the beliefs of the Yanomami tribe.

Supporting Learning at Home

Your child will be set spelling and maths homework on most Wednesdays; this should be returned by the following Monday morning. In addition, the children are encouraged to log in and use Times Table Rock Stars at home.

Accelerated Reader

Your child will complete a star test through Accelerated Reader each term which will generate a ZPD based on their comprehension and vocabulary understanding. Your child will then choose a book within that ZPD from school. Once your child completes a book, they will complete a quiz at school to improve their understanding of the text.

Your child's AR book is their home reading book, please ensure that you listen to your child read regularly.

It is also important that you share other stories and books at home with your child to develop their love of reading.

Key Dates

Class Assembly – Friday 13th February

Marvellous Middle – Tuesday 24th February

Parents Evening – Tuesday 10th & Thursday 12th March

World Book Day – Thursday 6th March

Fantastic Finish - TBC

Year 3 Swimming

Swimming lessons will begin on **Tuesday 13th January** at Summerhill High School. If your child needs to wear goggles, then please send in a short note giving your permission for them to do so.

Children **MUST** have long hair tied back or wear a swimming hat and may we also ask that no jewellery is worn on these days.