

# Violet Class Newsletter



**Our topic this half term is Amazonia**

## English

**In class we will...** be reading a book called 'The Amazon Diary'. Using this book as inspiration, we will write adventure stories, diary entries and character descriptions. We will also use this topic to generate a range of non-fiction writing including persuasive writing and reports about the rainforest and many of the issues surrounding it.

**At home you can...** read a range of explanation books (books that answer questions) and information books. Use the Internet and non-fiction texts to find information linked to our class topic, Amazonia. Visit the Lexia website at least twice a week.

## Maths

**In class we will...** consolidate our reading and writing of numbers up to five million. We will identify the place value of each digit and partition 7 digit numbers. We will practise the formal written methods of addition and subtraction including calculations with decimal numbers. We will use our understanding of place value to multiply whole numbers and decimals by 10, 100 and 1000. We will solve problems and number puzzles using algebra. We will identify prime numbers and equivalent fractions. We will use short methods of both multiplication and division to solve word problems.

**At home you can...** practise mental maths with quick fire questions. Make sure you are completely fluent with all times tables up to 12 x 12. Visit the Mathletics website at least twice a week.

## Science

**In class we will...** be learning about Evolution and Inheritance. We will recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide historical evidence. We will identify how living things have adapted to suit their environment. Our second topic will be Living Things and their Habitats. We will describe how living things are classified into broad groups and give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics.

**At home you can...** go on a nature walk around Southwark Park. Visit the Natural History Museum at South Kensington to learn more about evolution. Use the library to research famous scientists such as Carl Linnaeus.

## Class Information

**PE:** please bring a full kit (including trainers) to school on a Monday and take home on a Friday.

**Homework:** Reading every night (20mins) and then fill in planner. The planner must be signed by an adult weekly. Weekly spellings - test on Friday.

Monday - English comprehension

Tuesday / Thursday - maths

Wednesday - English grammar activity

**Class Assembly:** 31<sup>st</sup> October

**Class Trips:** 20<sup>th</sup> September - Cross Country

24<sup>th</sup> September - Orienteering

1st October - Kew Gardens

**Parents' Evening:** 27<sup>th</sup> September

## RE

**In class we will...** research and compare explore at least three different religious leaders in the local community. We will explore why we need leaders and what qualities a good leader needs to possess.

**At home you can...** discuss who are the important religious leaders in the world. Visit the library and find out more about them.

## Topic - Amazonia

**In class we will...** be investigating the Amazon Rainforest and the Amazon River. In Geography we will be investigating rivers and the effects they have on the landscape. We will look at the problems that floods, drought and pollution cause. We will make a comparison between the Amazon River and River Thames. In History we will explore the key characteristics and downfall of the Maya civilisation and make links to the Amazon and how it is being treated today. As part of Art we will experiment with collage, using patterns and textures found in nature. In ICT we will begin to use Scratch to learn basic programming and coding. In PSHE we will be developing skills in making decisions. We will discuss why people use and misuse drugs. We will learn about how to make an informed opinion.

**At home you can...** use the internet to research rainforests and rivers. There are many websites with information and activities to do at home, such as the Science Museum and BBC Science online.