

Autumn Term 2020-21

Year 2 Curriculum Newsletter



Topic: My Local Area and the Amazon

This term we are going on a journey from our local area to the Amazon rainforest. We will find out about Whalton and its surrounding area and research an adventurer/explorer called Ed Stafford who walked the entire Amazon. He is going to send us on some Commando Joe missions where we will develop our resilience and tolerance skills.



Commando Joe

R.E.S.P.E.C.T.: Our curriculum this term is based around the COJO RESPECT 'Character Behaviour Traits' – Resilience, Empathy, Self-Awareness, Passion, Excellence, Communication and Teamwork. Ed Stafford, an inspirational character, will lead us on several missions where we will develop our characters through fun and engaging activities.

PHSE: We will discuss what makes a good friend and that friendships have their ups and downs and know that relationships can be worked through.

Art and Design Technology:

We will research the artist Henri Rousseau and use his techniques to create our own rainforest paintings. In design technology, we will plan and make a kit bag for our expedition to the Amazon rainforest. We shall also make our own badges to commemorate 'The Forgotten Army'.

Weekly Events:

Spellings: Every **Wednesday**, starting Wednesday 16th September, there will be a spelling test. The spellings are sent home at the beginning of every term. The marked spelling book will be sent home on Wednesday night so that you know the result.

Reading Challenge: Children are asked to read at home at least 3 times a week to achieve the weekly reading challenge. For us to be sure that they have achieved the challenge, we ask that parents record their child's reading with any comments in the reading diary. Reading Challenge will also be recorded on **Wednesdays**, starting Wednesday 16th September.

Times Tables: The children will have speed tests on their times tables on most days but extra practice at home will ensure the facts are embedded. By the end of Year 2, the children need to be able to recall the 2, 5 & 10x tables' facts, at speed.

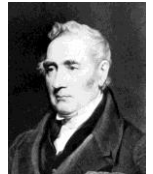
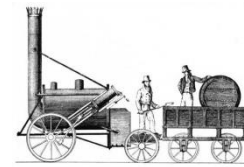
Homework: Each **Thursday** your child will receive a homework task to be completed and handed in by the following **Wednesday**. If he/she struggles with the work given or finds it not challenging enough, please let me know.

PE: Mrs Lee-Turner will be taking our PE lessons in school this term. She will be focussing on multi skills activities based on running, jumping striking, catching, leaping, kicking, power, strength, agility, balance and hand/eye co-ordination.

Reminders: Please could the children come to school dressed in PE kit every Thursday.

Computing: We shall research the Amazon and learn how to use the internet safely. We will give the computer a set of instructions and through trial and error correct any mistakes.

Geography: We shall draw our own plans and maps of the school and local area then compare them with published maps and plans. We will talk about what it is like to live in a place like Whalton and make a tourist leaflet for visitors.



History: This term we will study some famous local people who have made a huge difference to Britain and the world. We will research the lives of people such as Emily Davison, George Stephenson and William Turner.

RE: We intend to investigate the main big ideas in the 'Big Story' of Christianity. We will visit the 8 main chapters eg Creation, Incarnation, Gospel and Salvation before fitting them together.

Science: Light and Rocks will be the foci this term. The children will be investigating where light comes from. They will examine different types of rocks and discuss their uses.