



St Minver School and Nursery

Head of School: Mrs A Warren

Friday 10th January 2025

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! I hope you have all had a fantastic break and the children are raring to go! This term promises to be a busy one!

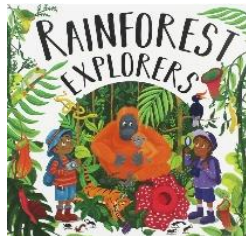
'Rainforest Explorers' is the theme for our topic work this term and we begin by asking the question 'Are rainforests important?' During our Geography lessons we will locate different rainforests around the world and take a closer look at the Amazon Rainforest in Brazil. We will draw upon our science work from last term about 'Living things and their habitats' and find out about the 4 main layers of the rainforest and the types of animal and plants that can be found living there.

The children were very excited to jump on board our Greenaway plane on Tuesday, to travel the 5,296 miles it takes to travel from Rock to Brazil so that they could discover the amazing Amazon Rainforest.



Did you know that the Amazon Rainforest is the largest tropical rainforest in the world? It is home to around 40,000 plants, 1,300 birds, 3,000 types of fish, 430 mammals and an incredible 2.5 million different insects! Sadly, there is no trip to Brazil planned but we are hoping to visit the Eden Project later in the term.

Reading and Writing In English this term, we will be exploring and writing our own riddles about a rainforest animal and writing a non-chronological report about orangutans which links to our class text 'Rainforest Explorers' by Marnie Willow. We will also be writing a recount about our trip to the Eden Project. During our story time sessions, we will be listening to 'The Secret Explorers and the Rainforest Rangers' by S J King. Please continue to encourage your child to read every day at home if they can. We welcome the positive comments you make in their reading record and appreciate the time you take to listen to your child read. It really does make such a difference to their progress!



Maths We begin this term by learning how to subtract a 2-digit number from another 2-digit number before starting our next topic on 'money' where we will learn to recognise and count different coins and notes. We will also explore the different ways we can make a given amount and link this to everyday life. After this, we will begin our unit on multiplication and division. The children will learn how to use their knowledge of counting in multiples of 2, 3, 5 and 10 to solve multiplication and division problems.

We will also continue to take part in a daily 'Snappy Maths' session each afternoon where the children will learn a range of strategies to help them recall their addition and subtraction facts within 10. Securing fluency in this area will enable the children to free up their working memory so that they can reason, and problem solve about their maths when faced with more complex problems to solve.

T: 01208 862496

E: hello@stminver.org

W: www.stminver.org

St Minver School, Rock Road, St Minver, Wadebridge, Cornwall PL27 6QD

A Company Limited by Guarantee. An Exempt Charity

Registered in England & Wales - Company No. 07387540

Registered Office: Aspire Academy Trust, Unit 20, St Austell Business Park, St Austell, Cornwall PL25 4FD





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Science Our topic this term is entitled 'Animals, including humans'. During this topic the children will learn that animals have offspring that grow into adults and will think about how they have changed since they were a baby. We

will look at various life cycles and find out what animals need to survive. We will also study the importance of diet and exercise for humans. To support this topic please can you send in a baby and toddler photo of your child by **Friday 24th January**. Alternatively, you may like to email them to me via hello@stminver.org. Thank you for your support in advance.

In other areas of the curriculum we will be exploring the coding program Scratch Junior to create our own animation on the iPads linked to the rainforest. We will be listening to 'The Little Train of the Caipira' by Heitor Villa Lobos who was a Brazilian composer whose music was inspired by his travels around Brazil, including his trips through the Amazon. In Art, we will look closely at the shapes and colours of different leaves, plants and animals in the rainforest as a stimulus for painting our rainforest display. We will also begin our art topic entitled 'Exploring the World Through Mono Print'.

Weekly Routines

Monday – Homework and spellings are handed out. PE with Mrs Cudmore.

Tuesday – Visit to the library to choose a new book. Please make sure your child's library book is in their bookbag on this day so that they are able to change it for a new book if they wish to.

Wednesday – Music with Mrs Davis and Computing with Mr Hawtin.

Thursday – New 'phonic' book sent home for those children on the Little Wandle Reading Scheme. Our Jigsaw unit for this half term is entitled 'Dreams and Goals'.

Friday – Spelling quiz, homework folders to be returned and active mile. PE with Mrs Cudmore.

Please remember to send your child's PE kit into school in a named carrier bag ready for their PE lessons on a Monday and Friday afternoon. Don't forget that the children may come to school on a Friday wearing their trainers and jogging bottoms ready for our active mile in the afternoon. Please make sure that your child has a named water bottle.

School Website

Please don't forget to take a look at our class page on the school's website (www.stminver.org) where you will find lots of photos of the different learning taking place in Greenaway Class. If you have any further questions or queries then please don't hesitate to ask.

We look forward to a happy and enjoyable year in Greenaway Class!

Thank you for your continued support.

With very best wishes,

Louisa Cudmore

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