#### **CURRICULUM OUTLINE**

# Salisbury: Year 4 Autumn Term 2021 'Amazing Americas!

**Topic:** The autumn term topic in year 4 is **Amazing Americas**! covering an exciting mix of geographical, historical and sceince skills. In the first half of the term, the class will take a trek into the depths of the rainforest where they will discover where the rainforests are located, what they are like, who lives in there, including animals, plants and indigenous peoples. In the second half of the term, the children will uncover the mysteries of the Maya. They will start by taking a trip deep into the rainforests of Central America to explore Mayan ruins and from there, embark on a journey that will help them uncover the life, society and civilisation of both ancient and modern Mayan people.

#### Literacy

The term will kick off with the class writing recounts about their summer holidays. Then, our English will link to our topic; the class will look at various poetry styles and features to then go on to describe the animals found in a rainforest setting. Following this, the children will write a piece of narrative using the book, Great Kapok Tree as their inspiration. After half term, the children will learn the skills and



features required to write a successful non-chronological report to enable them to produce a general report on the rainforest and include information about an animal which inhabits the rainforest. Then, they will revisit letter-writing features to write a persuasive letter linked to the environmental effect of deforestation. Linked to the writing skills, will be the understanding of grammar and punctuation. In addition, spellings will take place four times a week with a specific objective to cover and embed along with handwriting practice.

# Numeracy

The class will spend time exploring place value, which will also weave itself through our focus on mental addition and subtraction skills; use of written methods for addition and subtraction and multiplication and division. Each week the children will practise their times table knowledge by challenging themselves to complete the



'TT Rockstars' questions within a set time with the aim to improve recall and timings. We will also practise mental maths knowledge and skills. In addition, there will be daily Morning Mission Challenges that explore various aspects of math to aid consolidation.



**Science:** The Science topic for term one is habitats and food chains which will link directly with our geography sessions. They will find out about herbivores, carnivores, and omnivores, as well as how plants are at the start of any food chain. They can then have a go at creating some food chains of their own. During the second half term, the class will also be learning about sound. The children will explore what sound is and

how it is made, as well as investigating how sound travels, how it can be blocked and how different pitches can be attained.

**Computing:** In the first half term, the focus is the continuation of teaching basic word processing and text formatting skills learning about formatting images and organising content into and effective layout. Throughout the unit, the children will learn new skills techniques and apply them to creating a range of different word documents which they will use during a Rainforest themed project. We will then use some of these skills to produce rainforest pictures in the style of Andy Warhol. E-safety will play a vital part of our learning this term to ensure we are all aware of how to be internet SMART.

# Art / Design Technology

As part of our art, we will examine how textiles are used in different cultures, how to colour fabric and add patterns based on a Batik style. After half term, and linked to our Rainforest topic, we will be designing and making 3D bugs using papier mâché. Plus, We are planning to revisit our sewing skills to produce a Christmas related piece of work.



# Physical Education (P.E)



The outdoor P.E focus for the autumn term is invasion games. During the term, the class will learn the features off and skills required to play hockey and tag rugby. The children will also give consideration to tactics in terms of defence and attack.

Our indoor theme in term one will be on gymnastics with a focus on balance; in term two the focus is dance where the children will create a rainforest dance. Our P.E days are **Wednesday (outdoor)** and **Friday (indoor)**. Please ensure your child has suitable kit and footwear for these activities.

#### Music

In term one, all the learning is focused around one song: Mamma Mia. During the term the children will listen and appraise this ABBA song against others from this famous Swedish band. They will learn the lyrics with a view to perform it plus opportunities to learn and play some of the instrumental parts creating and adding improvised parts. In



learn and play some of the instrumental parts creating and adding improvised parts. In term two, the unit of Work continues to teach the children about the language of music through playing the glockenspiel considering the 'pulse' and 'rhythm' of the piece of music style.



#### Religious Education (RE)

Our theme in term one is, 'Celebrations'. The class will explore what celebrations are, why we celebrate and then explore how different faiths celebrate and why they celebrate certain events. In term two, the class will move onto learning more about the **Hindu faith**: how the Hindu belief is expressed collectively; how Hindu worship is

celebrated to build a sense of community plus worship and celebrations: ways in which worship and celebration engage with/affect the natural world. We will also be preparing for Christmas by exploring the symbolism linked to the season of advent and the Christmas story through our weekly class and whole school assemblies.

# Personal Social & Health Education (PSHE) / JIGSAW

The themes this term will be 'Being Me In My World' and 'Celebrating Difference'. In our sessions we will explore being part of a class team; a school citizen, our responsibilities and rights thinking about democracy plus rewards and consequences while working towards a class charter. The class will reflect on how we are all different; including others when working or playing; understanding what bullying is and how to help those being bullied plus how to solve problems.

**French:** During term one, the theme is: **'All Around Town'**. The class will learn to develop their intercultural understanding by being introduced to the sights of some typical French cities. They will also learn to describe places in a town, count to 100 and give their address in French. In term two, the topic, **'On the Move'** will develop the children's conversational skills via some new topics: transport, direction and movement. They will learn to conjugate the high-frequency verb 'to go' and use it in context.



Homework: Homework will be provided to support the maths and literacy lessons in class to ensure consolidation of knowledge plus regular, recorded, reading and times table practice will be included. Although reading homework will be set, we would always encourage children to read for a minimum of 10 minutes per day outside of school, whether independently or to and adult. This can be their school reading book



or a text of their choice (newspaper, age-appropriate magazines). In addition, a piece of research may be requested to support the topic theme. Some pieces will be set electronically for which the children will receive a copy of their logins (in their homework diary) so as to access at home. Homework will be provided on a weekly basis; handed out on a Thursday (via Teams) and to be returned, completed, on a Tuesday. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mr M Harrison

September 2021