South America
Land of Rain and Fire!

Year 4

Summer 2026

Focus Curriculum Principles –

Strong Working Partnerships.
Promotes Independence and Curiosity.
Opportunities for memorable experiences

KEY AREA OF LEARNING - GEOGRAPHY

We will begin our Geography topic by exploring the Amazon Rainforest, identifying it on a world map initially. The children will learn about the layers of the rainforest, the climate, vegetation and animal life. We will explore how it is under threat. We will study the continent of South America and look at its land use, landscape and the varying countries that make it up. We will move on to explore rivers and will focus on The Amazon River and look at the River Nile and our local river, The River Yar.

SCIENCE

Energy: we will look at what energy is & how we can reduce our own energy usage. **Data collection:** we will be collecting data, analysing it & drawing conclusions.
Habitats: Children will investigate living things & their habitats as well as using classification keys. They will finish with looking at the human impact on habitats.
Digestive System: children will build their knowledge of carnivores, herbivores & omnivores, looking specifically at teeth. They will learn about human teeth & decay before moving onto the digestive system.

ENGLISH

This term, our class text is 'Amazon Basin,' written in the form of a diary. Through this book and a variety of non-chronological reports about South America and the Rainforest, the children will learn how to write a non-chronological report about a rainforest animal of their choosing. In Summer 2, the children will be reading the story Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone. They will write character and setting descriptions and explore magical encounter and adventure story writing. They will write letters and potion instructions.

MATHS

We will complete the unit on fractions and move onto shape before our two decimals units. In the final half term, the pupils will learn about money, length and perimeterand position and direction.Throughout, this the class will continue to learn their multiplication facts and learn to derive facts from known facts ready for the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC).

HOMEWORK

Children are expected to read at least 3 times a week and practice times table facts MTC practice websites - Mathsframe. They will continue to receive a piece of weekly English homework and spellings.

COMPUTING

In the first term, the class will be learning about Creating Media – photo editing.

In Summer 2 the children will be using Scratch to look at repetition in games.

PE

PE this term will involve: gymnastics, rounders and athletics.

The children will also have swimming lessons.

FRENCH

Children will continue their learning by developing their language, reading and writing skills about food and hobbies and expressing opinions. They will then consolidate learning from this term.

PSHE/SMSC

Social – Teamwork within class, working with each other in our PE and Forest School sessions.
Cultural – Looking at aspects of South American native cultures.
Moral – Looking at the moral implications of deforestation on the Rainforest and its native peoples.
Spiritual – Constant referral to issues around spirituality in worships (class and whole)

TRIPS/VISIT

To support the children's learning of the plants, the class will be visiting Ventnor Botanic Gardens. This will tie in with Art and the artist we will be studying: Marianne North.

ART

We will be learning about the artist Marianne North and will be drawing still life, focusing on shading and blending techniques. We will then move on to focus on the artist Irene Guerriero and develop painting skills, creating pictures relating to the flora of South America.

DT

The class will be looking at the traditional South American cuisine and will be making and trying a variety of food from this continent.

MUSIC

The class will be learning about body and tuned percussion – linked to Rainforests.

In summer 2, they will learn about samba music, composing basic breaks within the samba piece.

RE

We will be learning about the concept of Peace We will also study the concept of God.