

## Celebrating last half term

The children really enjoyed their local history project focussing on the Victorians – particularly our Victorian day where they experienced gruel in the Workhouse first hand! We enjoyed looking at Victorian artefacts and exploring how people in the past lived and worked; it was fascinating to learn more about the origins of the Sheffield steel industry.

## Useful information

Key dates:

- Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January – 6pm – Robinwood and Y6 SATs parents meeting
- Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January – Zoolab in school
- 22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> January – Robinwood Residential

**PE days this half term are Tuesday and Thursday.**

## Project theme for this half term - Why do we need rainforests?

We will begin our project with a visit from Zoolab, where the children can see some of the animals of the rainforest close up! During this project, the children will explore the following questions, alongside their own: What is a rainforest? Where are rainforests located? What are the uses of the rainforest? What is classification? How are things classified? Why is the Amazon River so important? What is deforestation? What lives in each layer of the rainforest? How are animals adapted to their environments?

## English

This half term our writing genres include:

- Non-chronological report
- Balanced argument

Our writing is linked to our project as this gives the children a context for their writing and helps them to produce their best.

In SPaG we will continue to revise all of the KS2 punctuation and grammar. In addition to this, we will be learning to use advanced punctuation e.g. colons and semi-colons. The children will have a dedicated reading lesson three days a week as well as daily reading for pleasure time. These sessions give the children the opportunity to fully develop a range of reading skills. Our class novel this half term is *The Explorer* by Katherine Rundell.

## Life skills

In our Life Skills work this half term, we will be focusing on prejudice, citizenship and British values. Some of the questions we will be exploring are:

- What is prejudice?
- How can I be a great citizen?
- What does it mean to British?

## Maths

In our daily maths lessons this term we will be covering the following topics:

- Area, Perimeter and Volume
- Ratio
- Algebra
- Decimals

In addition, we will have a weekly 'Basic Skills' arithmetic lesson and two 'Flashback Maths' sessions which focus on revisiting and consolidating prior learning.

## Ways to support your child at home

Homework will be set each Friday and is expected to be completed by the following Wednesday. A description of the task will be in each child's home learning book, and in most cases, homework is to be completed in the home learning book. In addition to the weekly homework task, children should continue to practise their times tables and spellings and should read for at least 20 minutes each day.