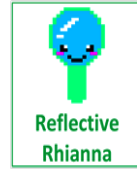




Being safe, being  
respectful, being *our* best



## Earith Primary School: Curriculum Newsletter



**Class: Thistle**  
**Term: Autumn 1**

### English:

In English, children in Thistle Class will be reading *Greta and the Giants*, and *Hotel Flamingo*. Using these texts to inspire their own writing, children will develop their persuasive writing skills to create adverts and convincing letters. We will be developing our understanding of word classes to enhance our descriptive language, and use noun phrases to write creatively about the world around us.

### Maths:

To begin this half-term's Maths, we will be recapping what was taught in Cygnet Class last year, and refreshing our knowledge of the basic operations and properties of number. Children will understand how number composition affects the place value of numbers, and the value that each number represents. Children will practice addition and subtraction daily, and continue to develop their counting skills.

### Science

Our focus for Science this year is *Animals* (including humans). We will be looking at how animals grow, and identifying the basic needs all animals require in order to survive. We will learn how animals have offspring, and how different animal classes have young in different ways. Children will learn the importance of habitat for animals' survival, and be able to differentiate between carnivores, herbivores and omnivores.

### Geography:

Linked to our learning on animals in Science, this half-term's Geography lessons will focus on the jungle. Children will develop their skills using maps and atlases to identify locations of jungles around the world, and identify common features of these

tropical places. We will look at different types of jungle, including mangrove and cloud jungle, and compare these to British woodlands.

### **Religious Education:**

Our focus for RE this half-term is Judaism. We will be learning about the historical teachings of Judaism and the symbolism and worshipping practices of modern Jewish people, to answer the question, "what does it mean to be Jewish?"

### **PSHE:**

New school years bring new beginnings, so our PSHE topic this half-term looks at how support networks and strong relationships can help us belong and feel safe through new challenges. Children will get to know their classmates, learn how to help look after their friends, and identify adults in their lives who they can go to for help.

### **Art:**

Thistle Class will be looking at the life and art of Henri Rousseau, a French painter who was famous for his artwork depicting jungle animals and plants. We will identify key features of his work, and implement his style in our own paintings. Using new artistic skills, we will create artwork inspired by the work of Rousseau, and be able to give opinions on his art.

### **PE:**

On Mondays, the children will be working with a sports coach to develop their skills controlling, striking, catching and throwing balls in various games. On a Friday, we will be using movement, positioning and travel to move around and explore shape in Gym lessons.

### **Music:**

To complement our jungle theme, the children will be creating jungle soundscapes in Music. Listening to natural sounds in the jungle, children will appreciate and appraise the music they hear, identify individual sounds, and use musical instruments and everyday objects to recreate their own soundscape.

### **Computing:**

In computing, we will be learning about the technological world around us: identifying examples and uses of technology; learning about the basic parts of computers and laptops; and understanding how to use technology safely and respectfully.

### **Big Questions for the Half Term:**

How do living things (including humans) grow and survive?

How do tropical jungles differ from British woodlands?

What does it mean to be Jewish?

How do we build positive relationships?

Who was Henri Rousseau, and what was his art like?

How can we recreate sounds of the jungle?  
How can we use technology in our everyday lives?

**Big Vocabulary for the Half Term:**

Science: Offspring, Species, Habitat, Endangered, Extinct, Development

Geography: Equator, Tropical, Mangrove, Deciduous, Evergreen

RE: Judaism, Synagogue, Shabbat, Torah, Chanukah

PSHE: Values, Welcoming, Support Network, Code of Conduct, Relationships

Art: Portrait, Landscape, Foreground, Background, Botanical

Music: Soundscape, Pitch, Volume, Rhythm, Notation

Computing: Technology, Digital, Keyboard, Mouse, Screen, Software

**Other Information:**

Outdoor PE (games) is on a Monday afternoon. Indoor PE (gym) is on a Friday afternoon. Children can wear PE kits to school on these days – please ensure they are wearing weather appropriate clothing, and as laid out in the uniform policy.

We have an educational visit to Hamerton Zoo Park, on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September – linked to our learning in Geography and Science. You will have received a letter about this.

Children will be sent home with reading books – they can read these independently or with parental support. They will also have a reading journal, which they can use to make notes, jot down ideas and draw pictures inspired by their reading – any thoughts and feelings about reading welcome! Parents and staff can also write notes. Please encourage your child to read widely and often – we have plenty of books in class and in the class and library that children are welcome to take home to read.