



# Year 4

Guide to  
Spring Term 1

2022





Our curriculum at Summerlea is creative and designed to forge links between the different areas of learning. Each topic we study is led by a big question to get us thinking. We have listed the **main** curriculum areas that will be addressed through each question and have given a brief outline of what we will be learning.

This term our driving question will be...

## ***Rainforests: What's under the layers?***

The key drivers for this topic are **Geography** and **Science**.

**Geography:** We kick-start the spring term by immersing the children in a Rainforest environment. Throughout the term, children will discover where the Rainforest are in the world and investigate the different layers of it. We continue our learning with an exploration of tribes and the people who live in the Rainforest. We will be reading *The Great Kapok Tree* by Lynne Cherry to support our findings.



**Science:** In Science, we will be exploring living things and their habitats. We start the term by exploring the local environment to discover what can be found. The children then have the opportunity to explore habitats and begin to classify different animals. We conclude with researching a chosen animals characteristics and present our findings.

**Art:** In Art, we will be studying the works of Henri Rousseau. His piece '*Tiger in a tropical storm*' will be our focus whereby the children will replicate and explore different materials and art techniques to create their masterpiece inspired by Rousseau.



**English:** We will explore and write narratives based on Toki's Amazon adventure. This narrative explores a plethora of themes which children will showcase in their writing. After this, children will turn their attention to exploring endangered species in the rainforest. They will have the opportunity to showcase their findings and write innovative, interesting chronological reports about their chosen animal. We will be reading Katherine Rundell's *The Explorer* to support and immerse us in our writing.

**Computing:** In Computing, the children will become authors. We will be exploring and planning the content for a class Wiki page encompassing the Rainforest and what lives there.

## Mathematics:

Our main objectives are to:

- *Explore the 3, 6, 9 times tables*
- *Explore the 7 times table and its patterns*
- *Understand and manipulate multiplicative relationships*

**The National Curriculum Objectives we will be focusing on during this half-term are as follows:**

*Recall multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to  $12 \times 12$*

*Use place value, known and derived facts to multiply and divide mentally, including: multiplying by 0 and 1; dividing by 1; multiplying together three numbers*

*Recognise and use factor pairs and commutativity in mental calculations*

*Multiply two-digit and three-digit numbers by a one-digit number using formal written layout*

**As a school, we have invested in the 'Times Tables Rock Stars' and 'Numbots', educational, online platforms. We would encourage children to use these platforms little and often, with your support where necessary.**



Numbots is a robot-immersed game, with the aim of developing children's understanding, recall and fluency in mental addition and subtraction. We would encourage our children in KS2 to access Numbots to consolidate their core maths skills.



Times Tables Rock Stars is a carefully sequenced programme of daily times tables practice. Children are able to practice multiplication tables, and associated division facts, to develop fluency and speed in recalling multiplication facts. This will impact on later maths skills.

# Year 4 information



## The team:

*Key Stage 2 Phase Leader: Mrs Galpin*

*Beech Class: Mrs Robins*

*Elm Class: Mr Burnett*

*Mrs Moynihan and Mrs Burge (PPA cover)*

*Mrs Vervecken (Learning Support Assistant)*

*Mrs Chittenden, Mrs Dyke and Mrs Lade (Individual Needs Assistants)*

## Exciting days, trips and visitors:

*International Day – 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022*

*E-Safety Week – w/c 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022*

*Safer Internet Day – 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022*

*Dragon's Den Week – w/c 14<sup>th</sup> February 2022*

*Year 4 Assembly to parents – Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2.15pm and Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February 9am.*



## PE Days:

*Outdoor PE – Wednesday – Co-ordination and Footwork*

*Indoor PE – Friday – Co-ordination and Footwork*

**Forest school:** *Every Tuesday this half-term, we will be out at Forest School. Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for all weathers.*

## Coats/snacks/drinks and equipment:

*Please ensure your child has appropriate clothing for cold/wet weather, as we will often still go out when it is raining and remember to ensure they have a separate jumper for outdoor PE. We ask that every child has a water bottle in school and that healthy break time snacks are put in the class box as soon as they come in, in the morning.*



***Please don't hesitate to get in touch with your child's class teacher if you have any questions or concerns; our doors are always open.***

## Preview/review

At the beginning of each half term we like to invite your child to reflect on previous learning and look forward to new learning.

*Last half term your big question was:*

*Sound: How low can you go?*

*What did you learn?*

*This half term our big question is:*

*Rainforests: What's under the layers?*

*What do you already know?*

