

Dear Parents,

This half term our topic is all about the Amazon Rainforest. This will be building on their prior learning in KS1 of how plants grow and their recent work on climates, food chains and habitats. The theme will be used as a vehicle to discuss key issues such as deforestation and palm oil as well as build a greater understanding of pollination, food webs and contrasting habitats.

Mrs Chapman and Mrs Evans

**Our recommended read:**

This half term 'The Secret Explorers and the Rainforest Rangers' will be available at the library or in school for you to borrow and share at home.



How does **deforestation** have an impact on global warming?

What **food webs** are there present in the Amazon rainforest?



What is the climate like in such **tropical** areas of the world?

How do the **emergent** and **canopy** layers differ and have importance?

What different insects contribute to **pollination** within the rainforest habitat?

## Spring 2

**Things to remember:**

**Monday** - Chestnut forest school  
**Tuesday** - PE Day  
**Wednesday** - KS2 swimming  
**Thursday** - Reading books changed  
**Friday** - Spelling test and Willow forest school

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March** - WBD



**Prehensile tail**

Within the jungle, some monkeys have prehensile tails, they have adapted to grasp or hold objects with them.



**Palm oil**

Palm oil continues to be a major driver of deforestation, destroying habitats of endangered species.



**Fireflies**

In the evening rainforest, flashing lights can often be seen cruising along. The children will recreate their flash using circuits.

### Useful words

**canopy**– the uppermost branches of the trees in a forest, forming a layer

**deforestation**- the action of clearing a side area of trees

**emergent** – the tallest layer in the rainforest

**food web** - – a system of interlocking food chains

**forest floor**- – the ground beneath the trees of a forest

**pollination**– the transfer of pollen to a plant to allow fertilisation

**product**- an article or substance that is manufactured for sale

**sustainable**– able to be maintained at a certain rate or level

**tropical** – a humid climate