



## Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter Spring 2 2020

Below is an outline of what we will be covering in Year 4 over the second half of the Spring term.

### RE - 'Lent to Easter'

In this topic we will:

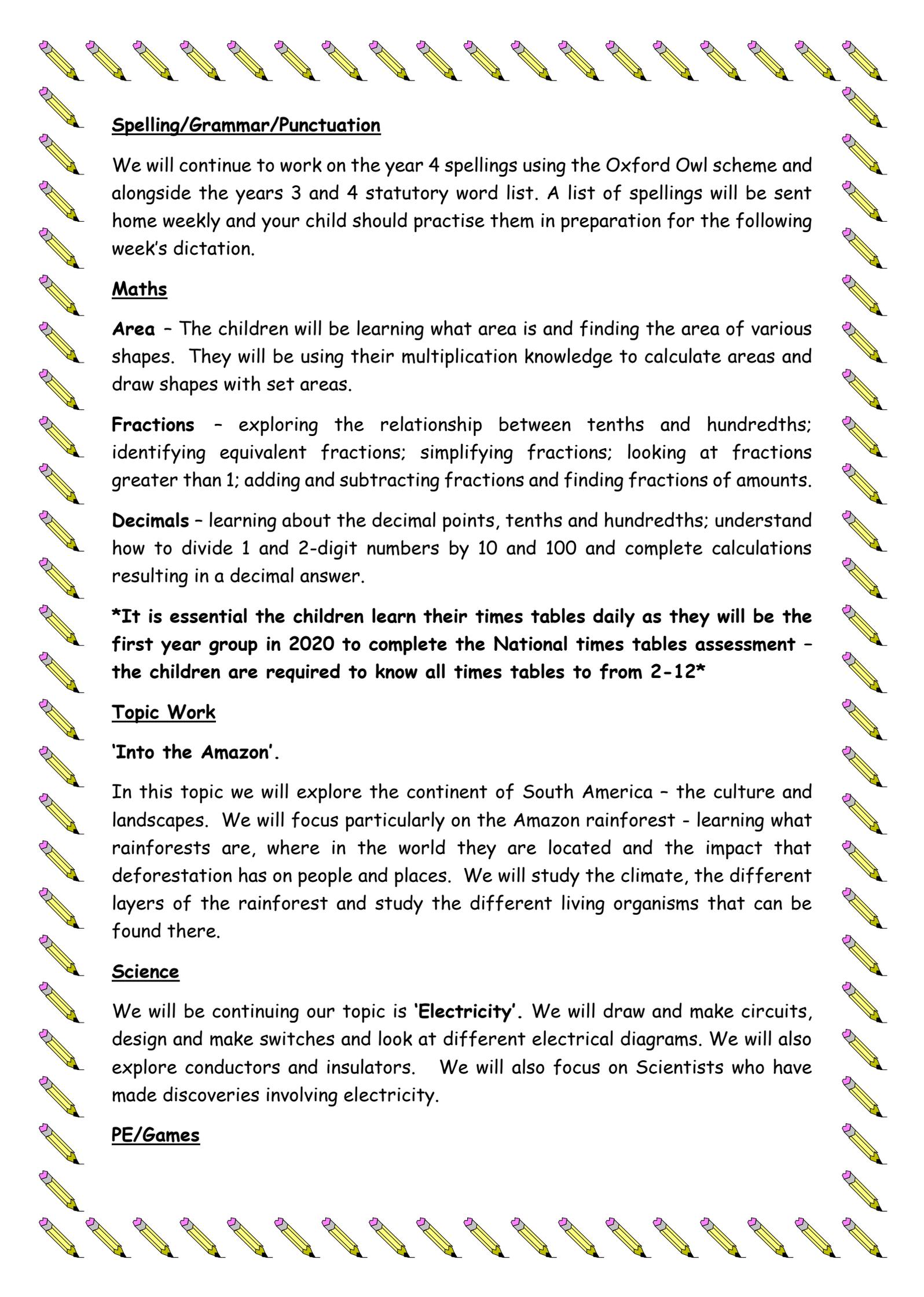
- Recognise, describe or explain some of the signs, symbols and religious terms which celebrate the season of Lent
- Retell the stories of the Passion from Palm Sunday to Good Friday
- Recognise, describe or explain a special action which is part of the liturgy of Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday or Good Friday
- Use religious terms to show an understanding of different liturgies  
Describe and explain the meaning and purpose of a variety of forms of worship
- Learn about the importance of Prayer during Lent

### English -

**Book Week 2<sup>nd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> March:** We are having fun-filled week focused on reading with various activities going on including: Author visit and pop-up book making workshop, t-shirt design, reading in the forest and a whole-school writing focus based on Aaron Becker's book 'Journey'.

**Non-Chronological report and letter writing 'Rainforest':** As the children learn about the rainforests they will create their own reports about the features of rainforests including locations, climates, flora and fauna of the rainforests and environmental factors affecting rainforests today. We will link this to the book 'There's an ang-tan in my bedroom' (James Sellick, Frann Preston-Gannon) to also write persuasive letters about deforestation and palm oil production.

**Fairytales and playscripts:** Using *The Princess and the Pea* (Lauren Child) and *The Pea and the Princess* (Mini Grey), children explore, read and write fairytales with a twisted point of view. Children write dialogue, and explore tense and pronouns, before role-playing and writing short playscripts, inspired by *Beware of the Storybook Wolves*. The unit ends with a chance to perform their writing to an audience.



## Spelling/Grammar/Punctuation

We will continue to work on the year 4 spellings using the Oxford Owl scheme and alongside the years 3 and 4 statutory word list. A list of spellings will be sent home weekly and your child should practise them in preparation for the following week's dictation.

## Maths

**Area** - The children will be learning what area is and finding the area of various shapes. They will be using their multiplication knowledge to calculate areas and draw shapes with set areas.

**Fractions** - exploring the relationship between tenths and hundredths; identifying equivalent fractions; simplifying fractions; looking at fractions greater than 1; adding and subtracting fractions and finding fractions of amounts.

**Decimals** - learning about the decimal points, tenths and hundredths; understand how to divide 1 and 2-digit numbers by 10 and 100 and complete calculations resulting in a decimal answer.

**\*It is essential the children learn their times tables daily as they will be the first year group in 2020 to complete the National times tables assessment - the children are required to know all times tables to from 2-12\***

## Topic Work

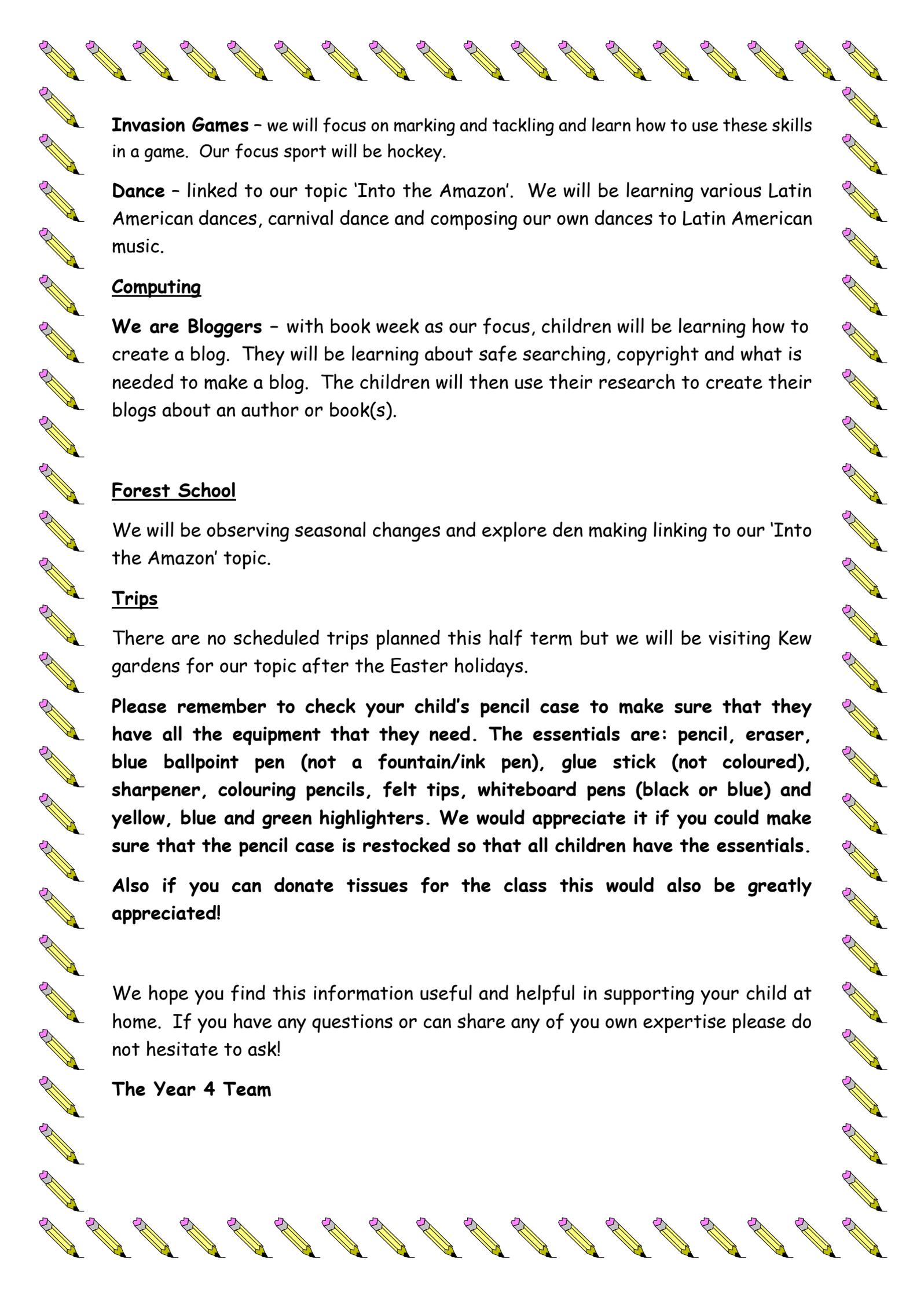
**'Into the Amazon'.**

In this topic we will explore the continent of South America - the culture and landscapes. We will focus particularly on the Amazon rainforest - learning what rainforests are, where in the world they are located and the impact that deforestation has on people and places. We will study the climate, the different layers of the rainforest and study the different living organisms that can be found there.

## Science

We will be continuing our topic is '**Electricity**'. We will draw and make circuits, design and make switches and look at different electrical diagrams. We will also explore conductors and insulators. We will also focus on Scientists who have made discoveries involving electricity.

## PE/Games



**Invasion Games** - we will focus on marking and tackling and learn how to use these skills in a game. Our focus sport will be hockey.

**Dance** - linked to our topic 'Into the Amazon'. We will be learning various Latin American dances, carnival dance and composing our own dances to Latin American music.

### Computing

**We are Bloggers** - with book week as our focus, children will be learning how to create a blog. They will be learning about safe searching, copyright and what is needed to make a blog. The children will then use their research to create their blogs about an author or book(s).

### Forest School

We will be observing seasonal changes and explore den making linking to our 'Into the Amazon' topic.

### Trips

There are no scheduled trips planned this half term but we will be visiting Kew gardens for our topic after the Easter holidays.

Please remember to check your child's pencil case to make sure that they have all the equipment that they need. The essentials are: pencil, eraser, blue ballpoint pen (not a fountain/ink pen), glue stick (not coloured), sharpener, colouring pencils, felt tips, whiteboard pens (black or blue) and yellow, blue and green highlighters. We would appreciate it if you could make sure that the pencil case is restocked so that all children have the essentials.

Also if you can donate tissues for the class this would also be greatly appreciated!

We hope you find this information useful and helpful in supporting your child at home. If you have any questions or can share any of your own expertise please do not hesitate to ask!

**The Year 4 Team**