

# Falcon and Kestrel Classes

## Monday 20th April 2026

Hello everyone and welcome to Term 5, we hope you had a wonderful Easter holiday and enjoyed the (mostly) warmer weather.

We have planned a very exciting start to the new term, celebrating Earth Day on Wednesday 22nd April. We look forward to creating poetry and artwork to express the children's understanding of how we can protect our planet from plastic waste.

As the weather turns sunnier, please make sure that your child is wearing sun cream and they can bring a sun hat in if they wish. Please also make sure that your child has a named water bottle

We are looking forward to a successful Term 5 and thank you for your continued support.

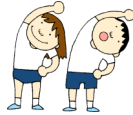
### PE

This term, PE will be outdoors:

Monday—Athletics

Wednesday—Quik Cricket

Please ensure your child has the correct kit for these sessions. Children can bring in sun hats.



### Dates for your diary:

Monday 4th May—Bank Holiday

Wednesday June 3rd: school trip to Port Lympne Safari Park (further details to follow)

### Topic

Our enquiry-led, geography topic this term is *Who should protect the Rainforests?* The children will learn about the world's tropical rainforests, with an emphasis on Asia. We will focus on environmental issues regarding the state of the world's rainforests and ways to protect them. In Art, the children will develop their sketching skills, including using pastels. In Science, we will be learning all about plant and animal life cycles. We will look at the different stages of plant growth and the various stages in different animal's life cycles, including metamorphosis. In Spanish lessons, we will learn and use vocabulary linked to the weather. Music will focus on composing and in RE we will learn about the Hindu beliefs of Karma, Samsara and Moksha.



### Reading

We continue to encourage daily home-reading of your child's levelled book and also for pleasure so that your child can benefit from sharing a book with you.



Engaging in discussions about the characters, events, language and vocabulary will enable your child to develop a range of reading skills.

Please speak with your child about why they chose the book and where it lies within their ZPD to ensure they are varying the types of books they are reading.

Please ensure your child has their reading and reading record books in school each day.

### Earth Week

'Earth Day' is celebrated across the world on 22nd April each year and traditionally we have always incorporated this date into our 'Earth Week' celebrations. This year's focus is: 'Planet v Plastic', and children across the school will be creating poetry, artwork and taking part in D&T projects to demonstrate their understanding of the damage caused by plastic waste and considering ways to reduce our use of plastic and to dispose of it more sustainably. As last year, our poems and artwork will be submitted to Rainham Eco Hub's ECO Creative Competition 2026. Miers Court won the overall award last year—we hope to do so again this year!

### Homework

Thank you to all the children who regularly complete Topic/science homework. Please remember that **we would expect you to complete 3 pieces of topic/science homework over the term.** As before, we have included a wide range of activities (in a variety of formats) so we're sure you will find something that interests you. We are really looking forward to seeing what you do.

This term's homework options are listed in the table here. You will see that all the activities are linked to this term's learning on the rainforests of Asia and on our Science topic, 'Circle of Life', which will focus on animal and plant life cycles and endangered species.

<p>Choose an animal, amphibian, insect or bird that lives in a rainforest habitat and write a fact-file about it.</p>	<p>Create a comparative poster of the life cycles of four different animals: egg, a butterfly, a frog, a chicken, and a human, highlighting similarities and differences.</p>	<p>Life Cycle story - write a short story from the perspective of an animal. Eg: a caterpillar (include accurate stages (egg -&gt; larva -&gt; pupa -&gt; adult)).</p> <p>In the quiet green of a summer garden, a tiny, speck-streaked egg rested on the underside of a mistletoe leaf. It was Monday morning, and with the warm sun rising, the egg began to wiggle. Suddenly, a minuscule head peeped through the shell as the hungry caterpillar had arrived.</p>
<p>How can we protect our rainforests? Produce a poster about all the ways we can save this important habitat.</p>	<p>Research the climate of a country in Asia. Make comparisons with the climate of the UK.</p>	<p>Make a list of things you need for a 3-day hike into the rainforest. Show this information in any way you wish.</p>
<p>Make a model of an animal that lives in the rainforests of Asia - in a medium of your choice.</p>	<p>Create a rainforest game that will help children learn the key words/facts about rainforests. Don't forget to make rules for your game!</p>	<p>Explain the water cycle. Choose how to present your work.</p>

Thank you from the Year 5 Team

