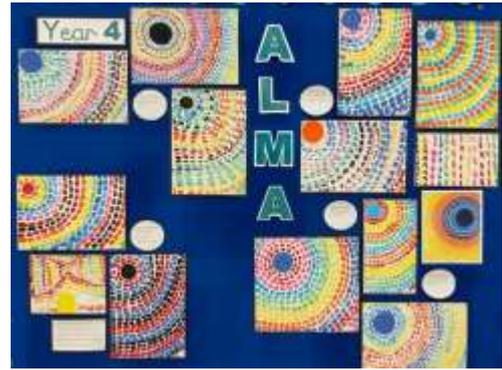


Year 4 have had a fantastic start to the academic year and we have been pleased to see progress across all areas of learning.

Starting the year with our artwork for the displays in the hall, we learnt about Alma Woodsey Thomas, an African-American artist who turned professional after a career as an art teacher. We are really proud of our work which is bright and mesmerising, with radial dots in a rainbow of colours.



Our Geography topic 'Rainforests' has linked with our science topic 'Habitats' and also with our English books 'The Great Kapok Tree' and 'Gregory Cool'. We have considered what life is like for the indigenous people and animals living in the rainforest, what their habitats are like and what concerns, threats and challenges they face. We learned about the importance of preserving the rainforests even for us living so far away from them. We also compared our climate and lifestyle to theirs. A highlight of the topic was our visit to London Zoo. In spite of the coach being delayed in traffic, thus reducing the time at the Zoo, we saw

many different reptiles and amphibians, the huge Galápagos tortoises, monkeys, gorillas and a sloth with its newborn baby although it was camouflaged well amongst the branches.



In English we have been focussing on ensuring our basic skills are really secure through several texts.

We really enjoyed 'Guess Who's Coming for Dinner?' which is a funny book full of clues for the reader, who watches the events of Mr and Mrs Pork-Fowler unfold during a visit to Eatem Hall! Can you guess what happened to them? Our activities included writing diary entries, letters, a recipe and a police report, using paragraphs to organise our ideas into groups.

Through our RE lessons we have been investigating a range of questions through our topic of 'Holy Texts, Stories and Prayers'. Recalling our learning about sacred texts we considered what makes a sacred book special. We looked at the similarities and differences of the creation stories from the Christian, Jewish, Hindu and Buddhist faiths and considered how and why believers pray. Focussing on the parable of 'The Good Samaritan', we thought about how a story impacts believers' lives.

What a busy first term we have had!