



At the time of writing, the expectation is that the current lockdown measures for the country will continue for at least another three weeks. The school's leadership team meets regularly via video conferencing, discussing how best to continue serving our school community within the guidelines issued by the Department for Education and Essex County Council and working closely with our partner schools in the Chelmsford Learning Partnership. We appreciate all the encouragement and cooperation from our families at this time as we navigate through the unique nature of the coronavirus pandemic.



## Home learning resources

Resources for home learning will be shared from tomorrow on eSchools for the week commencing 20<sup>th</sup> April.

## Keeping in touch

Thank you to everyone who responded to the request last week to get in touch with class teachers if this had not already been done. We would be grateful if all parents could check with their children to see if they have replied yet and if not, to please do so **before Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April**. Please remember to do this once a week from now on as this will help teachers continue to fulfil their duty of care towards their pupils. It can be a message about work or other things they have been doing at home and need not be very long. Although we are officially closed, we still retain certain responsibilities and teachers will need to follow up by phone if they haven't heard from pupils on a regular basis.



## ECFWS bulletins

The Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Service are producing bulletins that they have asked schools to share with their families. Bulletins 1 and 2 are attached to the newsletter email.



Mrs Burlton has compiled a word search for this week's newsletter:

The words may read across, down or diagonally. See if you can match the picture to the word (take care – two birds are very similar!)

### Find the birds

o e m o t d m x v c p g j i r  
h j y z h w p z x m r b i x x  
d o v e r f r w i p h o t g n  
u w p j c x g y z c u r w b j  
l u s c p j a n i c n y p t p  
v s i m b i p y c a v e b q p  
e p m k v z g n a d v n o a e  
c i c l y c x e a t r i p o n  
l g c m y b o v o x r a b t g  
l v a i k u u m i n g i v q u  
l n n w r e n y b m w t s e i  
c h a f f i n c h g k q q e n  
n h r x g h k r b h k x e s d  
l h y m m b o y c v x b w v p  
q s y z l f p y r v a f x u r

canary  
chaffinch  
crow  
dove  
hawk  
penguin  
pigeon  
raven  
wren





## Home learning examples

Bella from Year 5 has been busy in the last couple of weeks baking, learning to knit and painting a mural on her fence so they have something colourful to look at in the garden.





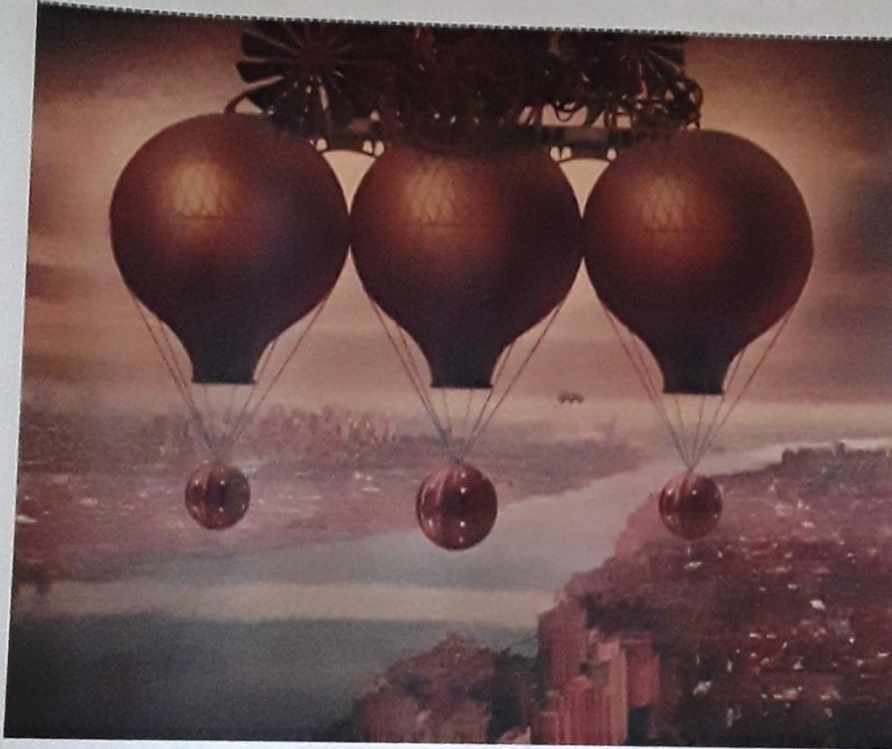
Sofia from Year 6  
has been baking and  
painting:





Halle from Year 4 has practised her persuasive writing skills:

# A New Innovative Way To Travel!



## The Zepper 2016

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Our magnificent flying machines rely solely on natural, sustainable energy and because they are cheap to construct, we have been able to offer lower cost flights to anywhere in the world.

The Zepper 2016 will give you some amazing views, and is fitted with everything you need for a safe, comfortable and relaxing start to your holiday. It's no wonder people everywhere are rushing to get their tickets to be the first to experience one of our flights. It really is the experience of a lifetime that will forever change how the world works!

Visit: [www.digglesflights.com](http://www.digglesflights.com) today, to book your first flight with us and use code 20ZEPPER for an exclusive 20% off\*

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*Luxurious!*

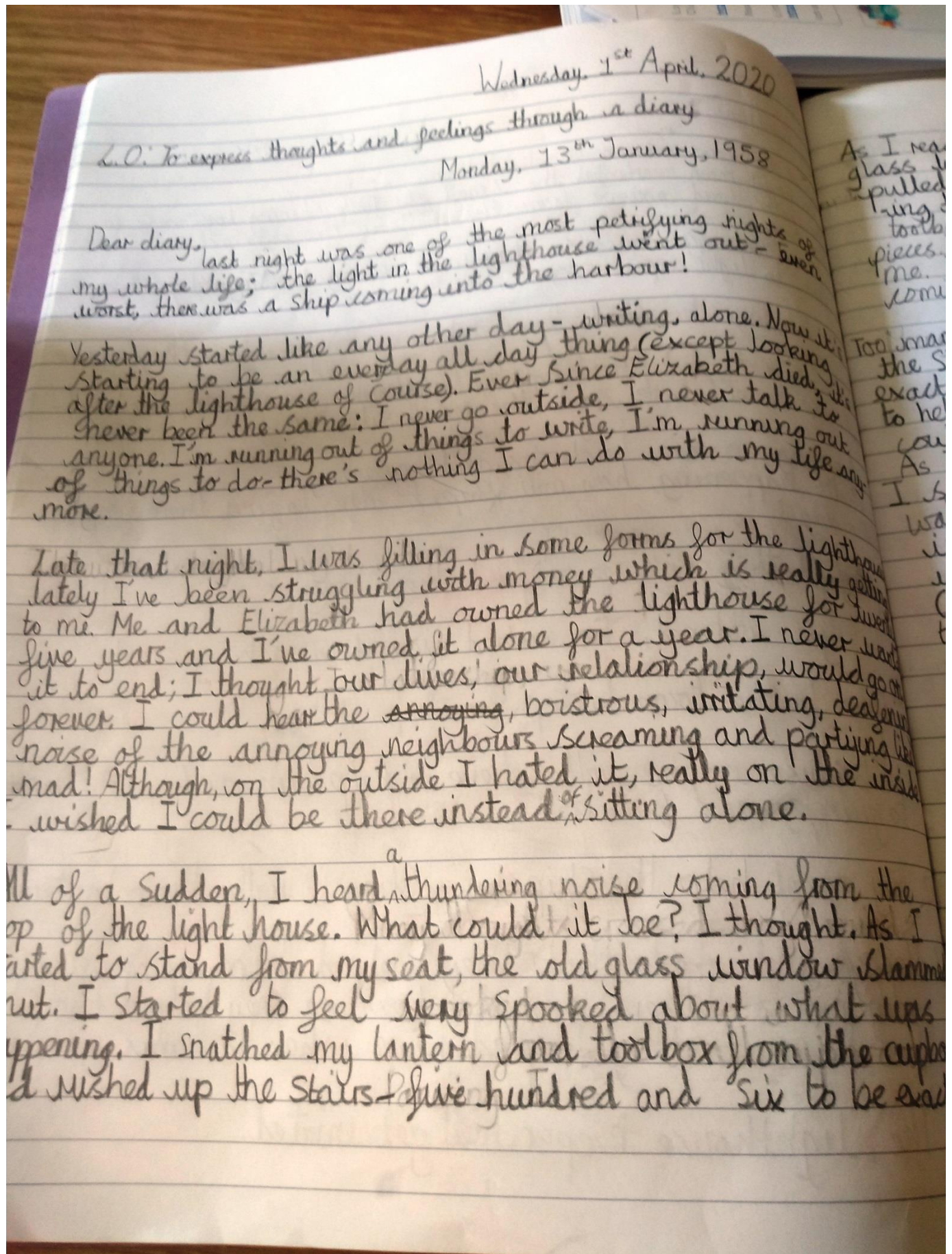
*Relaxing!*

*Super comfy!*

*Experience of  
a lifetime!*



Zara from Year 6 has been practising her diary writing skills:





As I reached the top, I had realised that the huge fragile glass light had blown out. I panicked, I grabbed the light <sup>and</sup> trying that I could fix it. Suddenly, I tripped over my toolbox leaving the huge, fragile, glass light in shattered pieces. I could hear a loud noise coming from behind me. I started to panic even more! There was a huge ship coming into the harbour!

Too many thoughts buzzed in my mind: What's happening? How will the ship find its way? This will be all MY fault! At that exact moment of time, I wished how Elizabeth was here to help guide me. I hurried down the stairs as quick as I could - I felt so sick, I thought I was going to vomit! As I opened the gnarled old door - which really needs fixing - I saw hundreds of people with bright glowing lanterns all walking towards me. I couldn't believe my eyes! It was incredible. I didn't realise how many people, who I thought were annoying and hated me, actually cared. Some people (including me) ran up to the lighthouse with our lanterns to give light there, while some people were standing all over the peak surrounding the lighthouse. It looked like the whole peak was a ball of fire! I took a sigh of relief as the ship sailed past.

Anyway, yesterday was one of the best days of my life (except from the scary part!) I have to go now, I'm off to my first neighborhood party! I'm so excited - it's good to have some friends now. It's better than just sitting in the light!  
Bye diary X

John

Ben F from Year 6 has written an extended geography report about the Amazon Rainforest:

## The Amazon Rainforest

### Introduction

The Amazon rainforest is a tropical rainforest located in South America. It crosses 9 different countries. They are Brazil, Peru, Colombia, Ecuador, Bolivia, Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana. It's 20 times bigger than Britain.

The rainforest is very warm with many very tall trees reaching up to 100 feet. It almost always in darkness due to its dense trees. It rains a lot in the rainforest as much as 200 cm per year. When it rains it takes 10 minutes for the rain to get through the dense trees canopy of branches and leaves before hits the forest floor.

Many of our everyday things come from the rainforest such as shampoos, moisturisers' medicines, bananas, coffee, chocolate, nuts, coconuts, cinnamon and materials such as timber, rubber and latex used to make things such as boots, seals for machines and tyres. Therefore providing work for many people.





## Why is the Amazon rainforest so important?

The rainforests such as the Amazon are essential to life on Earth because they supply not only air, water, medicines, food, shelter to many species but they are the Earth's best defence against climate change.

### Animals and plants

The Amazon rainforest is home to 10% of the known species, including mammals, birds, fish, reptiles and insects. This makes it an enormous centre of biodiversity. The rainforest is home to over 3000 types of fish, and 3 million types of insects. Each of the species adapts to live at different levels of the amazon from the forest floor to the tree top canopy to protect them from predators. Many of the species in the Amazon rainforest are endangered as they only can live in this rainforest.

Animals that live in the Amazon include jaguars, howler monkeys, sloths, anaconda, poison dart frogs alligators and apes.

The Sloths are slow moving mammals about the size of a small dog. There are two different species of Sloth, the two toed and the three toed. Sloths are herbivories and live in the trees. They can hang upside down in the trees for up to 18 hours a day.



In contrast the Jaguars are the third largest big cat species. They are carnivores. Their name means he who kills with one leap and is good tree climber. They are fast and can reach speeds of 80 kph.





There are many deadly species living in the Amazon rainforest. These include the electric eel, flesh eating piranhas, poisonous dart frogs, and venomous snakes.

The golden poisonous dart frog is very important to the indigenous people living in the rainforest. They coat their arrow tips used for hunting in the poison from the frogs skin. The arrow tips stay poisonous for two years.



Over 40, 000 species of plants live in the Amazon rainforest including the Brazil nut, and palm trees. This is the highest diversity of plants species anywhere in the world. The rubber tree also found in the Amazon is one of the most economically valued trees in the Amazon region.

The Cacao plant is also found in the Amazon rainforest and is the basis of our beloved chocolate!!





Can you tell what this is???

It is the Coffee plant that grows up to 30 feet tall in the dark dense conditions of the rainforest. Inside the red berries are the coffee beans. Making this the plant the most consumed plant in the world.

The rainforest is home to around 2 and half million different insect species. These insects are very important for the rainforest as they act as food source for many animals and help pollinate the plants within the rainforest.



The titan beetle is the largest beetle found in the Amazon rainforest.

The tree roots hold a lot of nutrients and when a tree dies and decays these essential nutrients are reabsorbed into the soil to feed new trees and plants.

### **Native Tribes**

Indigenous groups such as the Yanomamo, have lived in the Amazon for thousands of years. They were unknown to the outside world until the 1960's. There are 400 different tribes living in the rainforest. They live in



villages by rivers and catch fish and grow fruit and vegetable, such as corn, beans and bananas. They speak Spanish or Portuguese.



These native tribes are important to the rainforest as they protect it from outsiders. They live a sustainable existence meaning they use the land without doing harm to the plants and animals. However their lifestyle is in danger as deforestation continues.

### **Medicines**

More than 25% of modern medicines come from tropical rainforest plants. But only 1% of the plants have been studied so there may be a huge number of medicines still to discover. Some of the plants used in medicine can only be found in the Amazon rainforest making its survival vital to modern medicine. An example of a medicine is Quinine, this was the first effective medicine used to treat malaria. It was originally discovered by the Quechua tribe. Lapacho tree bark is used in modern medicine to treat cancer and treat infection. 70 % of plants with anticancer effects are only found in the Amazon rainforest.

### **Earth Climate**

The Amazon rainforest is known as the “lung of the earth” it produces 20% of the worlds oxygen supply due its dense mass of trees. They protect against the effects of global warming by absorbing greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide. The rainforest stores half of the earth’s rain water. It plays a vital role in maintaining the water cycle. The trees draw water from the ground and release it into the air as mist and clouds. This recycles the water which then feeds rivers and lakes around the earth. The tree roots bring the soil together. This stops the soil being washed away in the heavy rain. Which could lead to blockages and floods in rivers.



## Deforestation

Humans are rapidly destroying the rainforest by cutting down trees for logging, mining, farming and building of roads. This started in the 1970's. An area of a football pitch is destroyed every second. It is estimated the rainforest loses 137 species of plants and animals each day. Two thirds of the forest has already been destroyed. This loss of the rainforest if continues will massively effect the earth and all its populations.



## Conclusion

The Amazon rainforest is vital to the existence of the earth. It provides oxygen, water, and habitats for animals, plant and insects, home for native tribes, medicines and other resources we use on a daily basis. It helps slow down global warming. It prevents floods and droughts of the Earths Rivers. If deforestation continues there would be:

- Loss of vital oxygen supply
- Loss of biodiversity as many animals and plants would become extinct.



- The native tribes would decline because they would lose their homes and be forced to move into cities.
- Pesticides used in the farming would enter the rivers and poison them.
- Global warming would increase and the polar ice caps would melt causing flooding around the world.
- Global warming would heat up the amazon causing water evaporation and droughts.
- The loss of soil could lead to flooding.
- Floods could led to famine and diseases
- Loss of many vital food sources.
- Increased farming vehicles and cattle increase air pollution.
- Tree burning releases more carbon dioxide into the air.
- Loss the vital potential medicines from plants which could saves lives.

We need to protect the Amazon rainforest before it is too late! Organisations exist to help the conservation of the rainforest. One organisation is the rainforest alliance. They are actively helping conserve the rainforest. We all need to do our bit. So next time your reach for that chocolate bar or cup of coffee makes sure it's certified by the rainforest alliance shown by its green frog!!!

