



What's happening in Sycamore Class in the Spring Term 2024?



We hope you all had a lovely, festive Christmas break and are looking forward to starting 2024.

Mrs Osborne will be teaching you on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and Miss Grant will be teaching you on Thursday and Fridays.

We have Mrs Harrold as the class TA and Miss Burman as an LSA.

In Maths this term we are focussing on:

Year 3 - multiplication and division, length and perimeter, fractions, mass and capacity.

Year 4 - multiplication and division, length and perimeter, fractions and decimals.

We will be continuing our work on Mastering Number and developing and improving knowledge to explore and solve problem solving and reasoning questions.

We will be continuing to improve knowledge and speed of recall of the multiplication tables and their associated facts.

In English this term we are focussing on: Fly Eagle Fly and narrative writing, informal letter writing. Poems by Valerie Bloom and from the Hot Like Fire collection. Reading and spelling.

This term we will be learning.....

<i>Topic</i>	Explore - Around The World Exploring different countries, looking at both human and physical geography. How does the climate change around the world? Locating countries and oceans of the world.
<i>Science</i>	A world of living things and habitat helpers.
<i>DT / Art</i>	Traditional recipes from around the globe, Looking at artists from around the world and how our surroundings can influence our art. African art. Designing and making pop up books.
<i>Music</i>	Listening to and appraising music from around the world. Continuing our understanding of music notation.
<i>RE</i>	What does it mean to be Muslim? Why do Christians call the day Jesus died Good Friday?
<i>Computing</i>	e-Safety, Programming, Handling Data, Technology in our lives
<i>PE</i>	Danc, Korfball and OAA.
<i>French</i>	Talking about activities that we do and telling the time. Learning about key festivals and dates. Numbers from 30-60
<i>PSHE</i>	Personal safety, respect, Kidscape, Self-control, responsibility

Sycamore will have PE sessions on a Monday and Wednesday this term. We will be continuing to ask children to come to school on these days ready to take part in their PE lesson. Please ensure that they have a kit suitable for outside (black shorts or tracksuit bottoms, house coloured t-shirt and a jumper).

Art aprons are required to protect the children's clothing during art and design activities – these can be left in school.

All library books will be changed on Mondays and each child will keep a reading book in their tray to read whilst in school.

Children will be expected to have their Reading Records in school with them everyday, but they will be checked by a member of staff on a Monday.

Homework

Spellings: All children who are following the RWI Spelling scheme will have their own individual spellings to work on each week. They should also regularly look through their Log Book and practice spellings that they have found tricky. We will also add some spellings, for all pupils, to the Spelling Frame resource each week that individuals can use as additional practice.

Reading: Reading: Please continue to support your child with their reading and understanding at home. We encourage them to read a minimum of five times a week. This is additional to the reading that the pupils are doing in school. Please encourage your child to make a note in their reading record book whenever they read and ensure that their reading log is in school every day. We continue to remind all pupils about the importance of reading regularly at home and would encourage all parents/guardians to support their child with this.

Reading is very important as children are not only building fluency but also their knowledge of vocabulary, which is essential when tackling comprehension tasks. According to one source, if you read for twenty minutes a day you'll encounter an estimated 1,800,000 words over the course of a year whereas reading for only one minute a day will result in only 8,000 words. So, hearing children read regularly and reading to your children really does pay dividends when in secondary school.

Written homework and Maths homework: This year all homework will be set in homework books, which need to be kept in their book bags. Children will be given approximately two weeks to complete each task that is set.

With all homework, be it spellings, reading comprehension, piece of writing or Maths activity, when parents interact with their children and provide support and interest in the activity that they are completing, we know that this goes a long way to help improve the learning outcomes for the child. Please involve yourself as much as you can with your child's home learning and if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us through the class email address.

Maths: We will continue with the times table challenge as part of the Times Tables Rock Stars programme. Please encourage your child to use the Times Table Rockstars programme on a regular basis in order to support and improve their knowledge and speed of recall of the multiplication tables. We will also continue to identify appropriate activities on the Power Maths Active Learn website which we encourage pupils to regularly access at home. These activities are incredibly beneficial and can really help increase fluency and speed of recall. Children also have login details for Stick and Split which is an excellent way of supporting them with their multiplication knowledge.

Knowledge Organisers

Over the course of the next few weeks, knowledge organisers will begin to appear on the school website. These will contain information about vocabulary, key facts and information that will be being discussed and covered across a unit of work. They will be shared with the pupils within the classroom and displayed on the walls. Please feel free to use them as a reference guide and discussion tool for what your child is learning.

Our Value for Life this term is Perseverance and we will be reflecting on this during our daily Collective Worship and as part of our daily school life, so please embrace any opportunities of friendship with your child and take the time to talk about them.

If you have any questions, queries or concerns about your child please do give us a call or send an email to the school office who will then direct your message on to us.

Please ensure that you take the time to read the Friday Flyer each week as this will contain up-to-date information and many messages are communicated through this method.

A reminder that we are a **nut free school** and we request that pupils only bring in healthy snacks (e.g. piece of fruit or salad) for break time. Due to the increased number of food allergies throughout the school, we would ask that pupils do not bring in birthday treats.

Miss Grant, Mrs Osborne, Mrs Harrold and Miss Burman