



Sycamore Class Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn Term (1) 2023

Please find information listed about the curriculum which will be taught throughout this half term.

Subject	Topic this half term	Additional notes
English	<p>This half-term's novel is <i>Holes</i> by Louis Sachar. We will be exploring the book and developing a range of comprehension skills through this study.</p> <p>We will use the book as a stimulus for writing, with purposes including letter writing, diary writing in first person and narrative to entertain.</p> <p>Spelling, punctuation, handwriting and grammar skills will be developed through regular teaching and short practice sessions. The emphasis with these skills will be on applying them in writing across a range of curriculum subjects.</p>	<p><u>Spellings</u> Children will record spellings in their planners. Please encourage them to revisit and practise these regularly.</p>
Mathematics	<p>Place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division will be the areas of maths covered in the first half term.</p>	
R.E.	<p>The RE topic this half term is 'The Bible'. We will be exploring the impact of the Bible in the lives of Christians. This topic will also allow us to investigate sacred texts in other religions.</p>	<p>Our Christian Value focus this half term is 'thankfulness'</p> <p><i>'Always be thankful.'</i> – 1Thessalonians 5:16</p>
Computing	<p>The focus in computing this half term will be on vector drawing. Children will develop their skills in using shapes to create digital art work.</p> <p>Online safety is a continuous theme and lessons will address these issues on a regular basis.</p>	
Science	<p>In science, we will be studying Evolution and Inheritance. Children will learn about how living things have changed over time, how living things produce offspring and also how animals and plants are adapted to suit their habitats.</p> <p>Children will work scientifically by observing how animals and plants have adapted to survive in extreme conditions.</p>	

P.S.H.E (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education)	PSHE this term will focus on the topic of how we can keep healthy as we grow. This is a wide-ranging topic that will cover important issues such as how mental and physical health are linked, how to maintain positive and healthy friendships and how to keep ourselves physically healthy in ways such as cooking a healthy meal.	Alongside our PSHE curriculum, we will be running the NHS 'My Happy Mind' programme on a weekly basis to support children's understanding of the importance of good mental health.
History	Our topic in History this half term is the changing power of monarchs. Children will learn how the power of the British monarch has changed over the last 1000 years, using case studies such as John, Anne and Victoria.	
Art	In Art, we will be studying the life and work of Marina Elphick and using her work as inspiration for us to develop our textiles and digital artistic skills.	
P.E.	In PE this half term, we will be playing rounders and netball. Children will develop skills in each area before moving onto playing the games competitively.	PE days this half term are Mondays and Thursdays. Please ensure children have named PE kit in school on these days.
Music	In music we will be looking at melody and harmony, both in singing and playing techniques.	
Foreign Language (French)	Children will develop their skills in listening, reading speaking and writing French. The topic will be 'The Weather'.	

Other Useful Information

Homework

Homework will be given as a topic grid each half term. Instructions will be on this document. The children may also have homework written in their planners so it is important that they bring their planners home every night and bring them into school each day. The purpose of this is to prepare the children for high school and to develop independence.

A note from Mr Peters

Welcome back! A warm welcome to Sycamore Class to our new Year 5 children. As we begin a new year, we are feeling refreshed and ready to go. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me at school. I am looking forward to working with you this year.

With best wishes,

Mr Peters
Sycamore Class Teacher