



## *Sycamore Class Curriculum Newsletter*

### *Autumn Term (1) 2024*

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

Subject	Topic this half term	Additional notes
<b>English</b>	<p>This half-term's novel is <i>The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe</i> by CS Lewis. 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 and narrative.</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><b><u>Spellings</u></b> Children will record spellings in their planners. Please encourage them to revisit and practise these regularly.</p>
<b>Mathematics</b>	<p>Children will learn maths every day. For one session per week, the children will be taught arithmetic skills as a whole class, allowing plenty of opportunity for practice and consolidation. For the other four sessions, the children will be taught the wider maths curriculum, including developing reasoning and problem-solving skills.</p> <p>Place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division will be the areas of maths covered in the first half term.</p>	
<b>R.E.</b>	<p>Our topic this half term is 'Life as a Journey'</p> <p>The aim of this unit is to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• give children an opportunity to think about the idea that that life is a journey and what it means to make that journey as a Christian.</li> <li>• enable pupils to begin to understand the concept of undertaking a religious pilgrimage.</li> </ul>	<p>Our Christian Value focus this half term is <b>Love</b>.</p> <p>'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you' John 15: 2</p>
<b>Computing</b>	<p>The focus in computing this half term will be on coding. Children will develop their coding skills, working towards designing a coded programme aimed at a target audience.</p>	

	Online safety is a continuous theme and lessons will address these issues on a regular basis.	
<b>Science</b>	<p>In science, we will be studying Environment and Life Cycles. Children will learn about the different life cycles of mammals, reptiles, birds and amphibians, before moving on to look at the life processes of reproduction in some plants and animals.</p> <p>Children will work scientifically by observing life cycles and comparing the different processes in different groups of animals.</p>	
<b>P.S.H.E (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education)</b>	<p>PSHE this term will focus on the topic of how we recognise our identity. We will be discussing how we value similarity and difference, both in ourselves and our friends, and the wider community.</p> <p>We will also explore stereotypes and the harmful effects of using these.</p>	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.
<b>History</b>	Our topic in History this half term is the Viking and Anglo-Saxon struggle for the Kingdom of England. We will be learning about Viking raids and invasion, Anglo-Saxon resistance and the development of Danegeld in England.	
<b>Art</b>	In Art, we will be studying the life and work of Leonardo Da Vinci and using his work as inspiration for us to develop our drawing and sketching skills.	
<b>P.E.</b>	In PE this half term, we will be doing invasion games. This will include football and netball. We will develop the skills and awareness of rules/tactics before applying these in smaller modified games.	PE days this half term are <b>Tuesdays and Fridays</b> . Please ensure children have named PE kit in school on these days.
<b>Music</b>	In music we will be introducing musical tech and our musical learning will allow us to consider the question: How does music bring us together?	
<b>Foreign Language (French)</b>	Children will develop their skills in listening, reading speaking and writing French. The topic will be 'The Date'. We will be using the Language Angels scheme of work.	

### **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 full of optimism and feeling refreshed - 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