

# Autumn Term

Sycamore class have had a wonderful first term back. We've enjoyed getting to know our new classroom and have loved the new sensory rooms! We enjoyed starting swimming again, and in the nicer weather we liked going on community visits, which we enjoyed to the park and the local duck pond. This term has been a long and busy one, with lots of different activities happening from Halloween discos to Children in Need fundraising.



## Communication and interaction

We have started having weekend news sessions on a Monday afternoon, which all the students enjoy! Each pupil uses colourful semantics on the board to tell the class what they have done over the weekend. The class will then ask each other some questions about what they have done, and we finish the session writing about our weekend. In our literacy sessions we have explored The Colour Monster book, exploring the different emotions and how we can help to regulate ourselves when we are experiencing them. This half-term we have been exploring the book Ruby's Worry, writing diary entries about the things Ruby experiences in the book. We also have 2 targeted phonics or SPAG lessons per week- tailored to each child's need.



### **Cognition and Learning**

In our Number lessons this term we have been exploring the properties of number. We have ordered numbers, put missing numbers in the correct place, matched quantities to numerals, explored number sequences- counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and learned about odd and even numbers. In our Shape lessons we learned about 2D and 3D shapes, naming them and learning about their different properties. This half-term we have been learning about statistics- creating tally charts and pictograms.



### **Independence, social and emotional development**

In our PHSE lessons this term we have been working on playing and turn-taking with our peers. We have played board games and building games, learning to take turns with each other and share our favourite things. In food technology we have been exploring foods we like and dislike, our favourites so far have been chips and biscuits with our least favourites being tomatoes and red peppers! We promote independence in Sycamore class, encouraging all students to be as independent as possible in all areas of their learning.



## Physical and Sensory

Sycamore class have loved their swimming lessons this term with Victoria. They have all made amazing progress and look forward to the lessons each week. She has worked with them on rockets (wall pushes), kicking their feet, using big arms and giving them the confidence to be independent swimmers! In PE they have been working on their ball skills and gymnastics. We have enjoyed visiting the new sensory room and sensory circuit room too!



## Special news and upcoming events

### 📅 Start of Term

Mon 5 Jan – Staff Training Day (pupils at home)

Tue 6 Jan – All pupils return to school (normal time)

### 👨‍👩‍👧‍👦 Parent & Family Events

Thu 8 Jan, 9.30am – Parental Coffee Morning

Thu 15 Jan, 6.00pm – Virtual Tea & Chat with SLT

Mon 2 Mar, 9.30am – Parental Coffee Morning

Fri 6 Mar – Come and Learn With Me Day

WC 9 Mar – Parent Meetings

### 🌍 Curriculum & Awareness Days

Fri 6 Feb – NSPCC Number Day

Wed 11 Feb – Safer Internet Day

Thu 13 Feb – World Book Day 📖

Mon 16 Mar – Young Carers Action Day

Mon 17–Sun 23 Mar – Neurodiversity Celebration Week 💙

### 🎵 Performances & Celebrations

Fri 6 Feb – Family Performance: Harlow Brass Band 🎵

Fri 27 Mar – Family Performance: Harlow Brass Band 🎵

### ★ Spring Merit Assemblies (2.00pm)

Mon 16 Mar – PMLD

Tue 17 Mar – Sixth Form

Wed 18 Mar – Upper School

Thu 19 Mar – Lower School & Classroom Activities