

Sycamore Class – Lower School

Notable News

What a busy term we have had in Sycamore Class! We have celebrated several special days throughout the term: World Mental Health Day, Children in Need, Halloween and also Remembrance Day. We've also enjoyed a trip to the bowling alley and walks to the park.

The swimming pool reopened this term! Sycamore Class have enjoyed using the swimming pool and learning new skills from the swimming teacher!

We also enjoyed a visit from the therapy dog, Misty. We shared our reading books with her and gave her lots of strokes.

We've also been getting excited for Christmas! We can't wait for our parents to visit for our Merit assembly to see our lovely decorations!



Communication

In **Phonics** some of us have been working on Phase 2, some of us on Phase 3 and others have been working on our comprehension and spellings. We enjoy learning our sounds/ spellings of the week!

In **Literacy** we have explored the story the 'Old Toy Room' and learned about nouns and adjectives, as well as developing our comprehension skills using Blanks. We also enjoy our weekly library trips and doing daily reading in class.

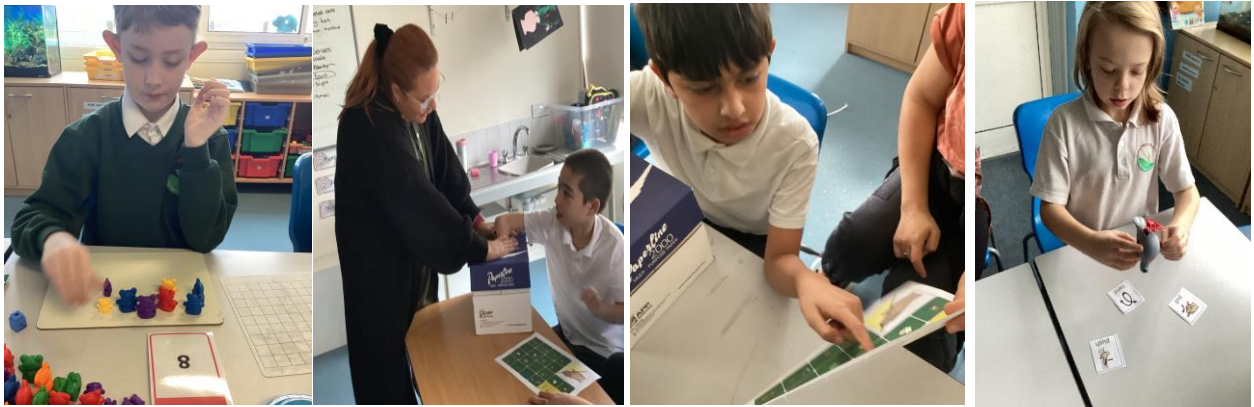


Cognition

This term we have been developing our knowledge of **number**. We have worked on ordering numbers, matching numerals to quantities, and sorting numbers into evens and odds. We have also looked at **time**. We organised pictures into 'day' and 'night' and sequenced our daily routine. Then we sequenced the numbers around an analogue clock.

We have been learning about 'Ourselves' and explored our facial features as well as our senses. We enjoyed playing 'What's in the box?' – pupils had to put their hand into the box then use a core word board to guess what they thought was inside!

This half term we have been learning about forces. We started by looking at **push** and **pull** - we went on a walk around the school to see what we could push and pull. We have also explored **twist**, where we got to explore lots of wind-up toys!



Life Skills and Personal Development

Pupils have been developing their cooking skills in **food technology** this term. They have been spreading butter and jam to make sandwiches; chopping fruit to make smoothies; and mixing ingredients to make cakes.

In **Computing** we have been learning how to use a computer safely and exploring Purple Mash, which we really enjoy.

In PHSE we have spent a lot of time working on our **emotions and feelings**. We explored how to be a good friend and how to be kind to ourselves using **positive affirmations** and having a **growth mindset**. We have been learning to look after our Class Pets, Tyrone, Tamatoa and Sally.



Upcoming Events

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- Wednesday 18th December - Lower School Merit Assembly/classroom activities
- Wednesday 18th December - Christmas Grotto
- Friday 20th December – End of Term (Early finish for pupils)
- Tuesday 7th January – Start of Spring Term

Next half term our topic will be 'People Who Help Us'. We would welcome any visitors to school to share information with our pupils about their jobs, so please get in contact if you are able to offer any support with this.

Thank you to all our Sycamore class pupils for a fantastic Autumn term! We hope you all have a fantastic Christmas holiday, and we look forward to welcoming you back in the New Year!

From the Sycamore class team

Emily, Laura, Angela and Adriana