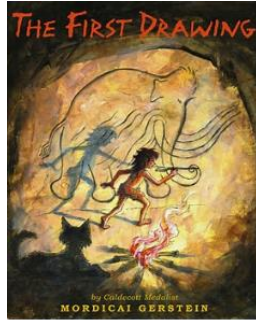




Sycamore Newsletter

September 2023

In **English** lessons this term, we are reading a book called *The First Drawing*. We will learn from its images and text about Stone Age cave art and how to write diaries, character descriptions and finally a short narrative. We will focus on using expanded noun phrases and fronted adverbials to bring this knowledge alive to our readers.



In Maths we are focusing on place value in 3 digit (Year 3) and 4 digit (Year 4) numbers and then beginning to apply this to addition and subtraction. We will also be working on quick recall of times tables. Year 4s will take a times table test in the summer term. Regular practise of new tables and repetition of ones previously learnt is invaluable. Details of tables to be practised are on your child's homework grid. Here are some links to support you doing this at home:

[Times Tables Rock Stars: Play \(ttrockstars.com\)](https://www.ttrockstars.com)



White Rose 1 minute maths app

Reading – Your child will have 2 reading books. One is an AR book chosen according to their reading range. Reading with an adult remains really important so new words and understanding can be discussed. Our reading bookmarks provide questions to help these discussions. We ask that you aim to read daily with your child, making a note in their student journal. House points are awarded for every time they have read at home (with written proof!) Your child will also be read with at least once a week in school. Their second book is chosen from our class library and is to be enjoyed as you wish, looking at the pictures, a book for you to read to your child or to read together.

Homework

In addition to reading and timetables, your child will receive a Homework Grid. There are a variety of tasks from which they need to pick 4 to complete by the October half term.

Student Planners

Your child will have a student planner. There is space for reading to be logged and messages written by home and school. These will be checked daily in school and we ask that you do the same at home to aid communication. There is space for you to sign at the end of the week to show you have accessed this.

History

In History we will be starting a longer unit looking at changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. Initially we will focus on the Stone Age thinking about how we find out about this period and how they sourced food and lived.



DT

We will be investigating pneumatic mechanics and using this understanding to create prehistoric animals.

Science

We will be studying forces with a focus on magnets; making predictions, carrying out investigations and using diagrams and scientific vocabulary to communicate our results.



PHSE

We will continue with our work on zones of regulation, identifying feelings and how they affect us. We will also look at tobacco as a drug.

French

We complete the unit *This is me* learning simple greetings and how to ask how someone is feeling.

PE

We are learning hockey and netball. The children have PE every **Wednesday and Thursday**. Earrings should not be worn for any PE session please help your child stay safe by removing their earrings on a PE day.

R.E.

We are looking at what it means to be a Christian in Britain today. We will look at Christian symbols, stories from the Bible and their meaning and Christian celebrations.

Computing

The children are developing their coding skills by using 'repeat', 'if/else' and making their own coding game.

Music

We will work with Mrs Hills from the county music service. This term we will be singing before moving onto instrumental work later in the year.