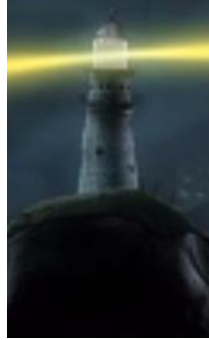




Sycamore Newsletter

November 2023

In **English** lessons this term, we are using the short film *The Lighthouse* as a stimulus. We will build on skills from last term to explore and describe characters and settings and build atmosphere in order to write a diary full of tension!



We will also take part in a whole school Christmas writing project.

In Maths we are focusing on addition and subtraction before moving onto multiplication before Christmas. We will continue 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 continue to travel along our time line towards the modern era. Leaving the Stone Age we will explore the Bronze and Iron Ages, exploring changes over time in food and settlements.



Art

We will use the poem *Jabberwocky* to explore storytelling through art, creating zigzag books.

Science

We will be studying Light, exploring light sources and how light travels. We will investigate shadows, looking for patterns and making predictions.



PHSE

We will continue with our work on zones of regulation and also explore and celebrate our similarities and differences.

French

We complete the unit *School Days* learning the days of the week and vocabulary to describe French school life..

PE

We are building our skills through team building challenges and dance. The children have PE every **Wednesday and Thursday**. Please help your child stay safe by removing their earrings on a PE day.

R.E.

We continue to look at Christianity and some of the key figures of Christians in the world such as Mother Theresa. As we are on the rundown to Christmas we will also look at special ways Christians celebrate this special time of year.

Computing

We are concentrating on online safety this half term. Ways children can stay safe online and what they are to do if they do not feel safe.

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.