

*A big hello and welcome back to the*

*Autumn Term in Sycamore Class from Mrs Plowman and Mrs Duff!*

We hope you have had a great summer and the children are refreshed and ready for their new learning in school.

Mrs Plowman will be teaching Sycamore Class Monday-Wednesday and Mrs Duff will be teaching the class on Thursdays and Fridays. Mrs Taylor will be supporting learning in our class.

Sycamore Class will attend Forest School on Wednesday afternoons for the first half of the autumn term. They will have PE (Football) on Friday afternoons with the sports coach and Music lessons will be on Friday mornings.

We look forward to working with the children and yourselves this year. Thank you for your continued support.

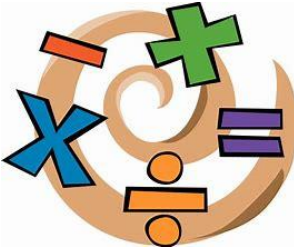
***Take a look at the 'Latest News' tab on the school website and the school's Facebook page to see regular updates of what Sycamore Class have been learning.***

Reading is a real priority, both in school and at home. Our class reader this term is 'Stig of the Dump'. As well as our class book, the children will experience quality books from our reading spine. Children will bring home a book from our reading scheme, plus a choice of their own book from the library. Children should read at home a minimum of 3 times a week. Answering questions and talking about the book is as important as reading the words. Please make sure reading at home is recorded in their reading records as will be continuing with our 'Reading Challenge'.

We encourage wider reading too, e.g. comics, newspapers, non-fiction, recipes and books from home. We want to foster a love of reading!

Spelling patterns will be taught each week in class which can then be practised on Spelling Frame. Tests will typically be on a Friday morning. The final two spellings each week will be from the list of Statutory spellings.

Maths homework will be given out on a Monday and is due back in on the following Monday. Please practise times tables at home each week too. Some good websites to use are [www.timestables.co.uk](http://www.timestables.co.uk) and [www.topmarks.co.uk](http://www.topmarks.co.uk). Hit the Button is a particularly good game on the first website. Children will have already brought home his term's KIRFs on paper, these are also available on the school website alongside the knowledge organisers for this term's topics.

English	Maths
<p><b>Reading is taught within the three big ideas of fluency, comprehension and pleasure.</b></p> <p><b>Writing is taught within the three big ideas of composition, communication and ambition.</b></p> <p>English, including guided reading, writing, spelling and punctuation and grammar, will be taught through a range of different genres and texts throughout the year. We will work on a five-step approach of: plan it, draft it, revise it, edit it and publish it. This allows the children to see that writing is a process and we can support them through each stage of it to reflect the features expected in the different kinds of writing they need to produce.</p> <p>This term, we will be writing stories about a character, composing Harvest poetry and writing diary entries based on the book 'Coming to England'.</p> <p>Alongside this, we will continue to work on our reading skills, spelling pattern knowledge, grammar and our presentation/ handwriting.</p>	<p><b>Maths is taught within the three big ideas of fluency, problem solving and reasoning.</b></p> <p>In Years 3 and 4 this half-term our areas of study will be:</p> <p>Number and place value</p> <p>Addition and subtraction</p> <p>Multiplication and division</p> <p>Measurement</p> <p>Alongside this, we will be learning and practising our times tables and key instant recall facts (KIRFs).</p> 
Science	History/Geography
<p><b>Science is taught within the three big ideas of curiosity, investigation and explanation.</b></p> <p><b>Autumn 1: Animals including Humans – What we are made of</b></p> <p>We will be learning about human and animal skeletons and muscle groups in the human body. We will also be identifying the five different food groups and explaining what nutrients we need and how they work to keep us healthy.</p> <p><b>Autumn 2: States of Matter</b></p> <p>We will be learning about the three states of matter and heating, melting and boiling.</p>	<p><b>History is taught within the three big ideas of chronology, equality and change.</b></p> <p><b>Autumn 1: How did people's lives change between the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age?</b></p> <p><b>Geography is taught within the three big ideas of location, diversity and environment.</b></p> <p><b>Autumn 2: Where do you pass through on a Great American Road Trip?</b></p>

<b>Art/D.T.</b>	<b>Computing</b>
<p><b>Art is taught through the three big ideas of inspiration, experimentation and Expression.</b></p> <p><b>Autumn 1: Drawing</b></p> <p>We will develop our ability to draw landscapes based on the artist John Brunsdon. We will be using pencil and oil pastel to help us do this.</p> <p><b>Autumn 2: Painting</b></p> <p>Children will look at and discuss the work of JMW Turner to create their own seascape using natural colours and a horizon line.</p>	<p><b>Computing is taught through the three big ideas of coding, communication and e-safety.</b></p> <p><b>Autumn 1: Connecting computers</b></p> <p>Children will Identify that digital devices have inputs, processes, and outputs, and learn how devices can be connected to make networks.</p> <p><b>Autumn 2: Stop frame animation</b></p> <p>Children will learn how to Capture and edit digital still images to produce a stop-frame animation that tells a story.</p>
<b>Music</b>	<b>R.E.</b>
<p><b>Music is taught within the three big ideas of appraisal, practice and performance.</b></p> <p>Children will continue learning to play the cornet or baritone as a KS2 group. This will take place on a Friday morning with County Music Service.</p>	<p><b>R.E. is taught within the three big ideas of faith, understanding an acceptance.</b></p> <p><i><b>Big question - Do beliefs make any difference to someone's life?</b></i></p> <p><b>Autumn 1: Christianity</b></p> <p>Children will learn how Christians show that reconciliation with God and others is important.</p> <p><b>Autumn 2: Hinduism</b></p> <p>Children will learn about why a Hindu wants to collect good karma.</p>
<b>French</b>	<b>P.S.H.E.</b>
<p><b>French is taught within the three big ideas of culture, understanding and fluency.</b></p> <p>In French this term, we will be learning about 'Des animaux au zoo'. We will learn the names of different animals that may be found in the zoo and we will learn how to say and write short sentences linked to this.</p>	<p><b>PSHE is taught within the three big ideas of responsibility, choice and identity.</b></p> <p><b>Relationships:</b> Children will learn about families and friendships. They will look at ways of making and maintaining positive and safe friendships including online. They will also consider how to respect themselves and others.</p>

### **Water Bottles and Snacks**

We encourage children to have a water bottle on their tables (with a non-spill lid). Bottles will be taken home at the end of each day to be washed and refilled. Squash and juice are only allowed at lunchtimes. Fruit is not provided for children in Key Stage Two, your child can bring in a piece of fruit or vegetable from home for a snack to be eaten at morning break.

### **We are here to help!**

If you have any concerns, worries or questions please do not hesitate to contact us as soon as these arise. The best way to do this is to speak to the teacher in person at the end of the school day. If this is not possible, or you need to make contact at any other time, please call/email the main office and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.