



Welcome to Sycamore Class!

Welcome to Sycamore Class! It has been a pleasure getting to know your children during the last two weeks and we are looking forward to a successful year with them all.

We are well on our way with our learning this term and all the children have been incredibly quick settling back into school routines and adapting very well to being in Year 2.

Included in this newsletter is some information about our Class routines and the learning this term.

Please do ask if there is anything else we can help with.

Best wishes, Mrs Loundes & Mr Pickavance

Topic: Towers, Turrets and Tunnels

We have already begun with an exciting introduction building the tallest towers we could from a variety of construction materials.

This topic has a Design and Technology focus with strong History links as we look at castle designs of the past, and Geography links as we find out about the world's tallest towers.

We finish the topic with a Science focus as we discover which animals build and live underground in burrows and tunnels. We will explore this habitat and learn about animal life cycles.

English

We have begun this year with the book **The Enormous Crocodile** by Roald Dahl. We have been identifying adjectives in sentences and thinking of our own super adjectives in our sentence writing.

Our second Literacy unit is Postcards and Letters. We will look at the writing of John Burningham, Janet and Allan Aldberg and Amy Husband. We will write our own postcards and letters focusing on these different text types.

Spelling is taught daily and children will be revising the sounds they have learnt in Year 1 and learning additional sounds and spelling patterns. A set of spellings are sent home in the homework folder every Thursday to be tested on the following Wednesday. Children who score full marks are rewarded with a sticker for their charts.

Religious Education

Our first topic is 'Creation'. We will look at the Old Testament stories of Noah's Ark and Jonah and the Whale. We will build on the children's knowledge of God as creator and protector of his creation.



Mathematics

Maths is taught every day in class. During this half term we will learn to estimate and count a number of objects up to 100, to count in 1s on and back from any 3-digit number, revise number bonds for 10 and 100, learn to double and halve numbers up to 15, and to compare and order a group of numbers.

Children will be introduced to **times tables** this term. We will begin with the 10 times table and this will be learnt by heart through repetition and easily remembered songs.

Homework

Homework will be sent home on Thursdays in a coloured plastic wallet with your child's name on. Inside you will usually find Maths homework that builds on the learning in that week's lessons, and a set of spellings which will be tested on the following Wednesday. Please sit with your child during homework time and give them any help necessary. Encourage your child to discuss what they have already learnt and how they can use this to help them. Any spare time can be used to hear your child read or to learn times tables.

Reading

Please help your child with their reading by reading stories to them and hearing them read as often as possible. Children will take part in a range of reading activities at school including guided reading groups with a TA or Teacher, reading from their reading scheme book and frequent storytelling sessions where they get to listen and enjoy traditional and modern stories.

Children are expected to put out their own books for changing, this will be done on Tuesdays and Thursdays. A big thank you to the adult volunteers that give up their time to hear Sycamore Class readers.

Other useful information:

PE is on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Children are still provided with a free healthy snack for morning break times.

'Show and Tell' is on Fridays if children have something special they would like to share with the Class.

Please provide your child with a water bottle for use in Class.