

# Sycamore Class Autumn Newsletter - September 2022



Welcome to a new year in Sycamore Class! We hope you all had a wonderful break and are raring to go again, as we all are! This term is already proving to be super busy but LOTS of fun!

**English** Year 3/4's first novel is 'Krinklekrax' by Philip Ridley and Year 5/6's is 'Who let the Gods out?' by Maz Evans – both original, exciting adventures which we will use to inspire our writing of diary entries, character and setting descriptions, recounts and narratives. All year groups will then be studying Greek myths to tie in with our topic (below).

**Maths** Y3-6 are concentrating on place value this half term, then the four operations and fractions. Times table fluency is **essential** in all year groups so please do encourage children to use TT Rockstars regularly at home.

**Topic** We are learning all about the **Ancient Greeks**: how their civilisation grew and changed over time and the influence they had on the wider world. This half term we will compare life in different time periods within Greek history before looking at Greek achievements and influence including the first Olympics, democracy, arts and culture, famous battles and mythology.

**Science** We will look at different **properties of materials** - conducting experiments and researching their properties. This half term we will focus on thermal conductors and insulators, measuring changes in temperature and testing solubility in different materials. Next half term we will explore mixtures, looking at sieving, filtering and evaporating, as well as learning about reversible and irreversible changes.

**RE** We are studying **festivals in different religions** and how they are celebrated - including Easter, Divali, Ramadan and Pesach. We will research what makes a religious festival special, how they are celebrated and what differences/similarities they share.

**Other areas: PSHCE** Our 'Being me in my world' topic focuses upon recognising our qualities, strengths, hopes and aims and taking responsibility for our actions. **PE** will be **Multi skills and football**, taught by Total Sports each **Tuesday and Friday**. Please ensure your child(ren) wear PE kit and trainers to school on both of those days and have long hair tied back. **Spanish** As Spain is such a popular holiday destination, we have decided to introduce this as our language this year. We will be learning greetings, numbers, colours, days of the week and months. We will also work on our Spanish accents and how to write words and phrases accurately. **British Values** Our focus will be **democracy** (in the context of Ancient Greece – and in action, during our House Captain elections!) **Computing** - internet safety, cyber-crime, how to use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly, as well as recognising acceptable/unacceptable behaviour online.

## Dates for your diary:

29 Sept – School's 150<sup>th</sup> **Anniversary**  
13 Oct and 24 Nov – KS2 **Parent Lunch**  
21 Oct, 2pm **Harvest festival** in church  
2 Nov – **school open day** – details to follow  
18 Nov – Children in Need **Talent Contest**  
23 Nov 2.30pm – **Sycamore Assembly** in V Hall  
14 Dec – **Christmas Parties**

30 Sept – Sycamore trip to **Food Festival**  
19 Oct 6.30pm – **JG Update meeting** for parents  
22-30 Oct – school closed for **half term**  
w/c 7 Nov – **parent/teacher nights**  
21 Nov – Individual **pupil photos**  
28 Nov – Y6 Parent meeting re **SATs**  
16<sup>th</sup> Dec, 2pm - **Christingle Service**



## Homework routines - Spellings / English / Maths

Spellings will be handed out on Tuesdays and tested the following Tuesday. Class teachers will send English/Maths homework home on Mondays, to be completed and returned by the following Monday. Mr Green will also give out homework at his maths clubs, to be returned at the following maths session (see club details on timetable below).

## Reading

Thankyou so much for supporting our renewed drive to encourage regular home reading. It is wonderful to see children taking books home every day and reading more often, both independently and with you. Please remind your child to record the date and pages read each time they read and please **check and sign their Record each weekend** before returning it on Monday. Thankyou!

## What the KS2 week looks like – and what to bring to school / take home each day:

	Mon Y5 Maths club 8-8.30	Tues Wear PE kit to school	Weds Y3/4 Maths club 8-8.30	Thurs Y6 Maths club 8-8.30	Fri Wear PE kit to school
Children need to bring 	Signed Reading Record Reading book Completed homework	Reading Record Reading book Yellow Spelling book for test	Reading Record Reading book	Reading Record Reading book	Reading Record Reading book
9.00-10.35	Y34 English AM/LB Y56 Arithmetic GH Y56 SPAG GH	Y34 Maths / English AM/LB Y56 Maths / English JN	Y34 English AM/LB Y56 English – JN	Y34 English AM/LB Y56 English – JN	Y34 English AM/LB Y56 English – JN
10.50-12.15	Y34 Maths AM/LB Y56 Science GH	Y3456 – PE	Y34 Maths AM/LB Y56 Maths JN	Y34 Maths AM/LB Y56 Maths JN	Y34 Maths AM/LB Y56 Maths JN
1.15-3.15	Y56 RE – GH Y34 RE – LB Assembly JG	Y3456 Topic (inc Art/DT) LB Singing Assembly LB	Y34 Science LB Y56 English/Maths JN Open the Book Worship	Y3456 Spanish / Music and Computing LB Celebration Assembly JG	Y3456 PE JN PSHE JN Class Assembly JN
Children need to take home 	Reading Record Reading book Homework from class teacher Any letters	Reading Record Reading book Yellow spelling book Any letters	Reading Record Reading book Any letters Y6 Maths club 3.15-4.15	Reading Record Reading book Any letters	Reading Record Reading book Any letters

Please do contact us if you have any questions or concerns about KS2. We look forward to hearing from you and thankyou, in advance, for your continuing support this term. It is very much appreciated.

Kind regards,

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