

# Sycamore Class – Year 56

## Autumn Term 2023/24

**As writers, we will be** studying a range of text types based upon two fabulous class novels: the first is a rip-roaring Mayan adventure and the second a moving WW2 themed tale. We will focus throughout on the collection, understanding and accurate use of a wide range of rich, ambitious language. In SPAG, we will be covering a wide range of spelling rules, punctuation and grammatical devices and terms to help make our writing as exciting, coherent and clear as possible.

**As musicians we will be** listening to, appraising and performing uplifting songs – focusing mainly upon Pharell Williams’ ‘Happy’, as well as numbers by Frank Sinatra, Katrina and the Waves and The Carpenters.

**As scientists we will first be** learning about Rocks and Fossils – comparing rock types, investigating their properties and also discovering how fossils are formed. After half term we will investigate how sounds are made and the meaning of pitch, volume, vibrations and more!

**As linguists we will be** learning French this year – starting with numbers, days of the week, months of the year, basic greetings and phrases - building up to short conversations – ooh la la!

**As readers we will** continue to develop our prosody skills (reading aloud fluently and with appropriate expression). When discussing and writing about texts, we will be honing our inference skills and developing our ability to justify our opinions by using evidence from the text. We will read a wide range of genres and authors throughout the year, both in class and at home, and this will help to make our writing even more effective too!



**As artists and designers,** we will be creating magical, Mayan mandalas using natural objects and taking inspiration from artists and sculptors such as Andy Goldsworthy. In the second half of term we will hone our drawing and sketching skills examining the work of war artists such as Paul Nash.

**As mathematicians we will** begin with revisiting the vital topic of place value before focusing on addition and subtraction, then division and multiplication. Times tables fluency is essential to almost all aspects of maths so we will continue to focus on developing this by testing different tables each week.

**As thinkers we will be** exploring the Creation Story in RE and asking how Christians believe the world was formed. We will also contrast this with the Mayan view of Creation (see below). In **Life Skills** (formerly PSHE) we will learn how to be a great team member and school citizen, as well as seeing democracy in action when we hold our House Captain elections!

**As historians we will be** studying the wonders of the ‘Mayan Mystery’ this half term – learning about the fascinating Maya civilisation and their impact upon the ancient world. After half term we will learn about World War 2, including a trip to the wonderful Eden Camp!

**Computing** will begin after half term (alternating with French) and we will begin by studying internet safety and honing our touch typing skills using Purple Mash.

**Links to school values**  
**Compassion** – We will demonstrate this value when learning about the difficulties posed by all involved in WW2. **Hope** – We will explore the importance of hope when considering the Creation story. **Community** – We will welcome new, and returning, adults and children into our Naburn family and ensure that they feel at home as quickly as possible. **Perseverance** – We will embody the value of perseverance every day in our studies as we aim to achieve our full potential, even when we find things challenging.

**Half Term Information**  
**PE** – Friday afternoon (invasion games and hockey this term). Please ensure children wear full PE kit and trainers each Friday, together with a waterproof top layer. **Homework** – spellings and times tables will be sent home every Tuesday and tested the following Tuesday. Per our recent letter, there is also an expectation that **Y56 will read for 20-30 mins per night** and write several sentences in their Reading Record, which will be checked daily in school. Please see over for **KS2 Autumn term timetable**.