

Sycamore Class – Year 456

Spring Term 2025

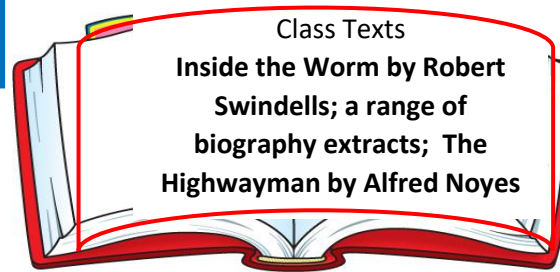
As writers, by popular request we will begin by studying the mysterious chiller ‘Inside the Worm’ by Robert Swindells to develop our suspense writing skills. We will then move on to an in-depth examination biography writing, to tie in with our ‘Great Women’ topic. Once we have learned all the key features of this genre, and written a biography together, children will choose their own ‘great woman’ to research and write about. After half term, we will focus upon Alfred Noyes’ epic poem – ‘The Highwayman’. We will learn about all of the devices that make this such a gripping and well-loved poem, before writing and performing our own versions of a section of it.

As musicians, after half term we will learn about calypso music, focusing upon pieces such as ‘Under the sea’ and ‘Emmanuel Road’. We will also continue to enjoy Monday singing sessions with Miss Bels .

As scientists we will first be learning about **plants:** identifying the functions of different parts of flowering plants; understanding what they need to thrive; pollination etc. Y56 will additionally study photosynthesis and how particular plants have adapted to suit their environments. After half term, our focus will switch to **living things and their habitats**, to include grouping living and using classification keys.

As linguists we will be looking at the story *Je m’habille et je te croque!*. We will learn the names of items of clothing and how to describe them.

As readers we will continue to develop our prosody skills (reading aloud fluently and with appropriate expression). When discussing, analysing and writing about texts, we will continue to hone our inference skills and develop our ability to justify our opinions by using evidence from the text. Regular ‘Whole Class Reading’ of a range of fiction and non-fiction texts will help us to do this, as will performing our own written work.



As artists and designers we will be producing portraits of ‘great women’, as well as making close, observational drawings of a variety of plants and flowers, linked to our Science topic.

As mathematicians we will study a wide range of areas including: decimals; percentages; perimeter, area and volume. Y6 will additionally be focusing upon algebra and ratio. Times tables fluency is essential to almost all aspects of maths so we will continue to focus on developing this.

As thinkers we will be investigating the big questions of ‘Why do people pray?’ And ‘What can be done to reduce racism? Can religion help?’ In **Life Skills** our first topic is ‘dreams and goals’ which will link to our school value of **aspiration**. We will develop a deeper understanding of what it means and what we need to do to achieve our goals. Our second topic is ‘**healthy me**’, during which we will think about all the things we can do to keep safe and have a healthy lifestyle, both physically and mentally.

As historians we will be studying a wide range of ‘Great Women Who Changed The World’ – from aviator Amelia Earhart to scientist Marie Curie; from Queen Victoria to author Jane Austen; from suffragette Emmeline Pankhurst to first female astronaut Helen Sharman. We will learn about the lives, achievements and legacies of these inspiring women as well as the challenges that many of them faced during their lifetimes.

In Computing we will begin this half term by learning more about the internet (Y34) and communication/collaboration (Y56) before consolidating our word processing skills. Y456 will use the latter to write biographies of their chosen ‘great women’.

Links to our new ARC school values

Aspiration – we will aspire to do our best in every lesson, every day and to fulfil our potential as learners and in all other aspects of our lives. **Respect** – we will treat everyone around us with respect and consideration. We will also respect ourselves by appreciating our worth and looking after our physical and mental health. **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.

PE – children will **swim every Friday** this term and will also have **PE** on Thursday.

Homework – spellings are sent home each Tuesday, together with a times table. The latter will be tested the following Tuesday. Additional, voluntary **Home Learning activities** can also be chosen from the selection on the reverse of this sheet. Please share your child’s work with their teacher as we would love to celebrate it. **Y456 should read for 20-30 mins 5x per week**. Reading books and Records must be brought into school every day please.