

## Sycamore Class – Year 5/6 Autumn Term 2025



As writers, we will begin by uncovering the story of The Lost Thing by Shaun Tan. A story about a boy who discovers an unusual looking creature on the beach while adding to his bottle top collection. Later this half term, we will read the novel The Explorer by Katherine Rundell. We will write a diary entry, a non-chronological report and an explanation text.

As musicians, after half term we will be having whole class instrumental tuition in ukelele. Watch this space for an upcoming performance!

As scientists, we will be learning about Earth and Space and the Solar System. We will make links between this and the Mayan calendar.

As linguists, we will be investigating the French speaking world and doing an in-depth study of a Francophone country.

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.

Class Texts
The Lost Thing by Shaun Tan
and
The Explorer by
Katherine Rundell

As artists and designers, we will be studying the artist Andy Goldsworthy and taking inspiration from him to create natural mandalas using sand, stones, natural objects and fabric.

As mathematicians, we will focus on place value up to 1,000,000, multiplying and dividing by 10,100 and 1000 and rounding, ordering and comparing numbers including negative numbers.

As thinkers, we will be investigating the big question of 'If God is everywhere, why go to a place of worship?'

In **Life Skills** our first topic is 'Being Me in my World'.

As historians and geographers, we will be uncovering the mysteries of the ancient Mayan civilisation. We will delve into the secrets of the underworld and find out about the Mayan calendar and number systems. We will investigate the geographical and environmental factors of Mesoamerica which led to the Mayan settlements.

**In Computing,** we will be programming using sequencing, repetition, selection and variables.

## 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 have PE every Friday this half term.

**Homework** – spellings are sent home each week and times tables should continue to be practised regularly. 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. **Y5/6 should read for 20 minutes 5x per week** and this should be recorded in their reading records. Reading books and Records must be brought into school every day please.