



Parents and Carers Information Leaflet – Autumn 1 Sycamore Class

Teacher – Mr Long

Teaching Assistant – Mrs Lorenzo



Dear Parents and Carers

WELCOME BACK!

Welcome back; I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable summer.



Attendance and Punctuality

School gates open at **8:30**, and children can go up to their classrooms at **8.45**. During this time, teachers will provide individual support for pupils to consolidate their learning.

It is important that children arrive at school by **8:55** at the latest, as registers are taken and checked first thing and any absences followed up by the office staff. Remember to call and let us know if your child is going to be absent for any reason so we can record this in the register.

I would also like to take this opportunity to reiterate the importance of attendance and punctuality. Good attendance at school is the single most important factor in ensuring that children and young people maximise their learning potential and have the best opportunities in adult life.

Being frequently late for school adds up to lost learning:

Arriving **5 minutes** late every day adds up to over **3 days** lost each year.

Arriving **15 minutes** late every day is the same as being absent for **2 weeks** a year.

Arriving **30 minutes** late every day is the same as being absent for **19 days** a year.

General Information

PE:

This half-term, Sycamore will go swimming on Wednesday. They should bring their swimming costume, swimming cap and a towel in a bag to change into at the pool.

Homework:

Homework will be set on Google Classroom, integrating Oxford Reading Buddy, Times Table Rockstars and Mathletics.

Children will be set Reading, Spelling, English and Mathematics homework each week. Children should upload their homework online.

Home reading books will be sent home weekly. Please check the front of your child's reading record for the day they should bring their books in to be changed.

Please read with your child daily. Children should aim to read at home for **at least 10 minutes per day**.

If you would like advice on supporting your child with homework, please contact your class teacher.

Belongings:

Please label all belongings with a permanent marker as one John Lewis jumper looks exactly like another, and ensure that your child has their book bag with them every day (book bags are available to buy from the school office).

Curriculum Overview

English: This half-term we will begin by exploring the book 'Krinklekrax' by Philip Ridley. We will be using role play and composing letters both formal and informal, writing reports and non-fiction writing. The children will build skills around use of vocabulary – emotional vocabulary and punctuation for diaries and informal letters, formal vocabulary and structure for non-fiction texts (such as information booklets) whilst using their Destination Reader skills to be able to understand characters and their motivations, learning to use evidence to back up their opinions and to build upon the ideas of others.

We will also be focusing on grammar such as:

- Speech marks
- Colons
- Use of dashes

Spelling: This half-term, we will be looking at the following spellings

- Words with silent letters
- Modal verbs
- Words ending in 'ment'
- Adverbs of possibility and frequency
- Statutory spelling challenge words

Each week, a list of 10 spellings will be sent home, comprising of words relating to the spelling rule of the week. Please practise these with your child.

Reading: Key Stage 2 will be following Destination Reader which is a carefully structured programme. The approach involves daily sessions incorporating whole class modelling, partner work and independent reading to deliver structured daily reading sessions at KS2. The programme encompasses the key principles of effective reading provision whilst instilling a passion for reading. We will be reading 'The BFG' by Roald Dahl

Handwriting: Children will practise being consistent in the formation of their upper and lower case letters and learning the horizontal and diagonal strokes needed to join some of the letters.

Mathematics:

Our focus for the first half term is on Place Value, Addition and Subtraction. We use a range of methods that the children can use to perform these tasks – this builds fluency so they know they have 'more than one way' to solve a problem. That way, they are able to select which is more effective and grow in their understanding of Mathematics.

Place Value:

- Recognise and write numbers (also as words) up to 6 digits
- Round up to 4 digits
- Be able to find 10/100/1000 more or less than a number mentally
- Compare numbers using symbols
- Order numbers up to 6 digits
- Negative numbers
- Roman Numerals

Addition and Subtraction:

- Adding 4 digit numbers with exchanging
- Subtracting 4 digit numbers with exchanging
- Rounding
- Estimating
- Using the inverse to check answers

Religious Education: At the start of the term in R.E. our learning question is 'What Do The Miracles Tell Us About Jesus?'. We will be exploring:

- links between the miracles and what they tell us about Jesus.
- how Biblical texts are used to answer important questions about who Jesus is.
- what miracles teach us about who Jesus is and explain how the different miracles present different aspects of the human and divine nature of God.

Science: During our Science unit this half-term we will continue our topic on 'The Earth and Beyond' In this module children develop their knowledge of the Earth's (and other planets') place in the solar system, and their relationships with other bodies in space, in particular with the Sun.

Computing: In Computing we will continue to learn how to stay safe online and recognise how the internet can influence us in both a positive and negative way. Then, we will be learning about Digital Literacy.

History: Our topic this half term is 'The Viking and Anglo Saxon Struggle for England'. They will learn to know the time and place of the Viking invasion and settlement in Britain. To explain why the Vikings came to Britain and to analyse historical sources. Finally, they will learn to explain why Alfred the Great was important for the Anglo-Saxon struggle for Britain.

Geography: Geography will be taught in the second half of the Autumn Term.

Art: Our art skills focus for this half-term will be drawing. We will learn to:

- collect and share ideas, and explore and experiment with materials
- develop confidence to use a range of drawing strategies and techniques
- understand that marks can have meanings
- develop control over a variety of drawing tools and materials, using them selectively and purposefully
- look at different kinds of drawing, talk about them and try to interpret them

PSHE: This half term we are learning about Being Me in My World. We will learn about:

- Facing challenges and setting goals
- Their rights and responsibilities as a citizen of their country
- Making choices about their behaviour and how those choices can impact upon others

How democracy and having a voice can benefit the school community and how they have a role in this

Physical Education: This half-term our area of focus for PE is fitness and invasion games.

Music: Our focus song for this half-term is 'Livin' On a Prayer'. In addition, children will be taught to play the recorder on Fridays.

Spanish: This half-term our topic for Spanish will be 'Do You Have a Pet?'