



Sycamore Class Newsletter

Summer Term in Sycamore Class

Summer term is always a busy time in school as we consolidate the learning over the last two terms and start preparing the children for Year 3.

Although we have had a disrupted year, we are still working on achieving the end of Key Stage standards which will help the children's preparations for Key Stage 2 and the next step in their education.

Thank you for your continued support of your children's learning and if you have any concerns or questions please do come and see me.

Mr Pickavance

English

Our first unit back after the break is on narrative stories and the children will be learning The Papaya That Spoke. By the end of the unit, the children will write their own version of the story having developed their own characters and setting using the structure and language learnt over the three weeks.

After half term, we will be looking at stories from the author Anthony Browne and emulating his style of writing. This will include reading several of his stories and looking at common themes running throughout them.

We will also be writing a recount from an event in school using different skills that the children have been taught over the year.

Mathematics

During this term we will develop our knowledge of operations and apply this in problem solving. The children will look at consolidating their knowledge of shape and we will revisit the work on fractions from the last term. We shall also examine different types of measure including weight, capacity and volume. I will be encouraging the children to get involved in practical ways to measure outside of the classroom and any help in this area will help cement the learning done in lessons.

Topics: Scented Garden & Wriggle and Crawl

With the arrival of the sun and better weather, our topics take a science and outdoor focus. We will be examining life around us through plant and animals we find in and around the school and local area.

Our Scented Garden topic involves a 'smelly' start as the children will be asked to identify different scents found in the garden. We are observing different scents, recording what we thought of them and then discussing what they were. In the following weeks, we shall be growing plants and looking at the science behind their growth and creating some instructions to show how to look after plants.

After half term our topic shifts towards animals with an emphasis on 'creepy crawlies'. The children will be examining animals and how they have adapted to exist in their environments over time. We will look at food chains and life cycles to establish what we can do to help these creatures survive in our local environment. The children will end the year by designing and then creating their own creature.

Important information

Due to Covid-19 restrictions in place, we are continuing to bubble in our year group. This means we will continue to eat our lunch in the classroom and social distancing guidelines will be followed to our best ability. Regular handwashing and cleaning of tables during breaktimes will continue as will setting the tables up facing the same way. Fortunately, with the expected improvement in the weather, the windows and doors being open should cause less of an annoyance to the classroom environment.

SATs information

As you may be aware, Year 2 normally undertake the Standard Attainment Tests in Maths and Reading

Reading

We have targeted whole class reading activities this year based on specifically chosen books for the Year 2 curriculum. This has included targeted questions to develop the children's understanding of questioning strands used in tests.

To help develop the children's independence, I am looking to incorporate some group-based reading alongside these materials alongside more work on specific story vocabulary. This should help the children with their reading and story writing.

during the term but these have been cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. However, we will still continue to assess the children and they will participate in internal testing during the second half term.

Although the tests are an indication of the children's abilities, the final grades will be decided by staff based on the work completed in class. Continuing to ensure that the children are punctual and present at school will help them to build their understanding of the work and allow them to achieve to their full potential.