



Sycamore and Willow - Year 5/6 Newsletter Summer 2022

Welcome back, we hope you have all had a wonderful Easter Holidays and have managed to get out and enjoy the lovely weather and sunshine. We are looking forward to a busy and exciting Summer term. We have our residential trip near the end of May to look forward to and a full term of activities including, country dancing, sports day, environment activities, the Queen's jubilee and many more.

English

This term, Year 6 will be focusing on the revision of spelling, punctuation and grammar in the run-up to SATs while year 5 begin with poetry. We will be focusing on combining all the skills that we have learnt this year, embedding them into our independent writing. After half term, we will be looking at the text 'Hidden Figures' and writing a non-chronological report, formal letter and a character description. Children will continue assessing their spellings with weekly quizzes, practising their spellings at home each day as part of homework.

We would like to thank parents for their continued support with home reading discussions and encouraging children to read at home four times per week (and recording this in their reading records).

Mathematics

Year 5 will continue their work with fractions, decimals and percentages finishing this topic with the calculation of decimals. We will then move on to the topics of shape and position and direction. Year 6 will be focusing on revision of arithmetic, reasoning and problem solving in the run up to SATs. After half term, we will be looking at themed projects to consolidate the mathematical skills and knowledge we have been developing this year. This will include looking at time, money and measurements - such as distance and temperature - as well as related arithmetic skills, to research our favourite holiday destinations. All children will continue to practise their mental maths, written calculations and times tables in our early bird maths sessions (first part of the day).

It is very important that children practise times tables they do not know by heart. This helps boost their confidence immensely. Mathletics can be logged into at home on a PC or tablet/iPad and children can select units that they would like to work on and complete the skills quest set for homework. If you have any problems with Mathletics, then please contact Miss Whitlock via Seesaw.

Science

We will be looking at living things and their habitats, focusing on plant and mammal reproduction, describing and comparing different life cycles including those of amphibians and insects and the process of metamorphosis. We will research Jane Goodall and her work with chimpanzees and how they became an endangered species. We will finish by discussing how living things are classified based upon their observable characteristics, similarities and differences.

Geography/History

In geography, we will finish our unit on maps and then move onto our next history unit that coincides with our reading of 'Hidden Figures' - Black history month. This unit will cover many topics such as prejudice, the space race, African-American culture and feminism.

PE and Games

Games lessons this term will include a mixture of tennis, athletics and rounders. As a reminder for new pupils, PE kit is to be worn to school on Monday and Wednesdays. If children have a spare pair of trainers, they can keep them in school for playing on the field at break time.

School PE kit should be worn with plimsolls for indoor sports and trainers for outdoor sports as appropriate. **Please could PE bags be brought into school on Mondays and left in school until the kit needs to be washed and then returned promptly!** Unless it is raining heavily, Wednesday's games will be outside. Girls who wear tights will also need socks. Please note: earrings must be removed or covered with a plaster (supplied from home) for PE. If you would like to send your child with earrings/glasses, you may want to provide a small, named plastic container they can keep in their tray to hold their items.

PSHE

Our Jigsaw topic this term is 'relationships'. In this unit, we cover building self-esteem, recognising when an online community feels unsafe, uncomfortable and unhelpful, how to reduce screen time and recognising and resisting pressure to use technology in ways that may be risky or may cause harm to children themselves or others they encounter.

Religious Education

In R.E children will be looking at the religion, Hinduism. They will look at the practices, celebrations and beliefs of Hinduism and focus their learning around the two questions: 'What is the best way for a Hindu to show their commitment to god?'; 'Do beliefs in karma, samsara and moksha help Hindus lead good lives?'

DT

Children will be completing some design and technology work this term and are designing, building and developing a self-propelled model car. Children will be focusing on using their knowledge of structure and forces to design a model car that can move using elastic energy or wind power.

Music

Children will be learning to compose and perform their own piece of rap music. After half term, they will be developing their singing and performing skills in preparation for an end-of-term performance.

Homework

Homework will continue to be set and relate to what the children have been learning in class. We would like to stress the importance of developing good study habits and children are encouraged to look at their homework as soon as they get it and plan when they will complete each part.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Miss Whitlock and Mrs Le May

