

## Autumn Term 2025 in Sycamore Class

### Welcome back!

Welcome back to this new school year and a very warm welcome to our new families joining us.

We hope you have had a great summer and the children are refreshed and ready for their new learning in school.

Mrs Plowman will be teaching Sycamore Class Monday-Wednesday and Mrs Duff will be teaching the class on Thursdays and Fridays.

Sycamore Class will attend Forest School on Wednesday afternoons with Mrs Hammond and have PE on Friday afternoons.

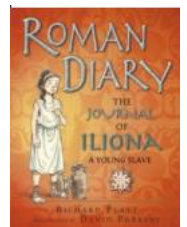
We have many exciting things planned for this term, including a Romans Day, so please keep checking school communications.

We look forward to working with the children and yourselves this term. Thank you for your continued support.

**Mrs Plowman and Mrs Duff**

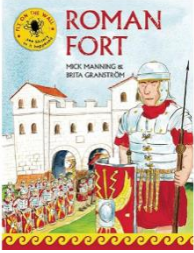

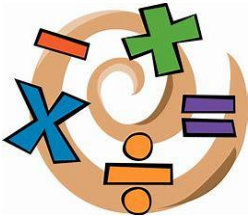
***Take a look at the 'Latest News' tab and Sycamore's class page on the school website to see regular updates of what Sycamore Class have been learning.***

Reading is a high priority, both in school and at home. Our class reader this term is: **Roman Diary- The Journal of Iliona by Richard Platt**. As well as our class book, the children will experience quality books from our reading spine (which can be found on our school website). Children will bring home a book from our reading scheme, plus a choice of their own book from the library. Children should read at home a minimum of 3 times a week. Answering questions and talking about the book is as important as reading the words. Please make sure reading at home is recorded in their reading records as this counts towards our whole school 'Reading Challenge'. We encourage wider reading too, e.g. comics, newspapers, non-fiction, recipes and books from home. We want to foster a lifelong love of reading!



Spelling patterns taught each week in class can be practised on **Spelling Frame** <https://spellingframe.co.uk/>. Spelling tests will typically be on a Friday morning and lists of words to be learnt will be posted on Spelling Frame each week.

Maths homework is given out on a Monday and is due back in on the following Monday. Please practise times tables at home each week too. Some good websites to use are [www.timestables.co.uk](http://www.timestables.co.uk) and [www.topmarks.co.uk](http://www.topmarks.co.uk). Hit the Button is a particularly good game on the first website. Children will bring home this term's **KIRFs** on paper, these are also available on the school website alongside the **knowledge organisers** for this term's topics.

English	Maths
<p><b>Reading is taught within the three big ideas of fluency, comprehension and pleasure.</b></p> <p>Our guided reading focus text this term is 'Roman Fort' by Mick Manning and Brita Granstrom.</p>  <p><b>Writing is taught within the three big ideas of composition, communication and ambition.</b></p> <p>English is taught through a range of different genres and texts throughout the year. We use a five-step approach of: plan, draft, revise, edit and publish. This allows the children to see that writing is a process and we can support them through each stage to reflect the features expected in different genres of writing.</p>  <p>This half term, we will be concentrating on 'The Place Value of Punctuation and Grammar' to lay the foundations ready for our writing topics.</p> <p>Alongside this, we will continue to work on our spelling pattern knowledge and our presentation/ handwriting.</p>	<p><b>Maths is taught within the three big ideas of fluency, problem solving and reasoning.</b></p> <p>In Years 3 and 4 this term our areas of study will be:</p> <p><b>Place Value</b></p> <p><b>Addition and Subtraction</b></p> <p><b>Multiplication and Division</b></p> <p>Alongside this, we will be learning and practising our times tables and key instant recall facts (KIRFs).</p> 
Science	History/Geography
<p><b>Science is taught within the three big ideas of curiosity, investigation and explanation.</b></p> <p><b>Autumn 1: Food and Digestion</b></p> <p>The children will learn about the human digestive system, different types of teeth in humans and food chains/webs.</p> <p><b>Autumn 2: Electricity</b></p> <p>The children will learn how to make simple electrical circuits, with switches, and investigate conductors and insulators.</p>	<p><b>History is taught within the three big ideas of chronology, equality and change.</b></p> <p><b>Autumn 1: The Romans</b></p> <p>Our enquiry question to investigate will be: 'Was the Roman invasion good or bad for Britain?'</p> <p><b>Geography is taught within the three big ideas of location, diversity and environment.</b></p> <p><b>Autumn 2: Our World</b></p> <p>Our enquiry question to investigate will be: 'Where on Earth are we?'</p>

<b>Art/D.T.</b>	<b>Computing</b>
<p><b>Art is taught through the three big ideas of inspiration, experimentation and expression.</b></p> <p><b>DT is taught through the three big ideas of composition, construction and evaluation.</b></p> <p><b>Autumn 1: Painting (Art)</b></p> <p><b>We will be looking and comparing the work of Maggie Hambling and Peter Lanyon.</b> We will imitate their styles for our own portrait and landscape paintings using techniques like tonking and sgraffito.</p> <p><b>Autumn 2: Sewing textiles (DT)</b></p> <p>We will be making seasonal stockings ready for Christmas. We will be learning how to use running stitch and back stitch. We will also look at ways of decorating and embellishing.</p>	<p><b>Computing is taught through the three big ideas of coding, communication and e-safety.</b></p> <p><b>Autumn 1: The Internet</b></p> <p>Children will learn that the internet is a network of networks which need to be kept secure. They will be given opportunities to explore the World Wide Web for themselves and will evaluate online content to decide how honest, accurate, or reliable it is.</p> <p><b>Autumn 2: Branching Databases</b></p> <p>Children will explore and create branching databases. They will create an identification tool using a branching database, which they will test by using it.</p>
<b>Music</b>	<b>R.E.</b>
<p><b>Music is taught within the three big ideas of appraisal, practice and performance.</b></p> <p><b>Autumn 1: Sea Shanties</b></p> <p>We will learn and perform sea shanties. We will look at what is meant by bass and rhythm. We will learn how to sing in unison along to a rhythm.</p> <p><b>Autumn 2: Gospel</b></p> <p>We will listen to and appraise a selection of gospel songs. We will look at how to sing in a call and response gospel style.</p>	<p><b>R.E. is taught within the three big ideas of faith, understanding and acceptance.</b></p> <p><i>Big question – What makes some people an inspiration to others?</i></p> <p><b>Autumn 1: Christianity</b></p> <p>The children will answer the question ‘How does believing in Jesus is their saviour inspire Christians to save and serve others?’</p> <p><b>Autumn 2: Hinduism</b></p> <p>The children will answer the question ‘How does the story of Rama and Sita inspire Hindus to follow their Dharma?’</p>
<b>French</b>	<b>P.S.H.E.</b>
<p><b>French is taught within the three big ideas of culture, understanding and fluency.</b></p> <p>In French this term, we will be learning about ‘Ici et là’. The children will learn about the different places you can visit in a town, how to describe each of these places and to explain which of these places they would like to visit and why.</p>	<p><b>PSHE is taught within the three big ideas of responsibility, choice and identity.</b></p> <p><b>Relationships</b></p> <p>Children will learn about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Families and friendships</li> <li>- Safe relationships</li> <li>- Respecting ourselves and others</li> </ul>

## **A few reminders...**

### **Water Bottles and Snacks**

We encourage children to have a water bottle on their tables (with a non-spill lid). Bottles will be taken home at the end of each day to be washed and refilled. Squash and juice are only allowed at lunchtimes. Fruit is not provided for children in Key Stage Two, your child can bring in a piece of fruit or vegetable from home for a snack to be eaten at morning break.

### **We are here to help!**

If you have any concerns, worries or questions please do not hesitate to contact us as soon as these arise. The best way to do this is to speak to the teacher in person at the end of the school day. If this is not possible, or you need to make contact at any other time, please call/email the main office and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.