



Sycamore Class Newsletter Summer 2017

Dear Parents,

We hope you all had a lovely sunny Easter and the children are all rested and ready for the summer term.

We thought it would be useful to update you on our weekly activities:

Monday - spelling test and new spellings given. PE lesson - outdoor PE kit needed. Reading records checked and success stamps awarded for reading at least three times.

Wednesday - Show and tell, watch out for the slip of paper to tell you it's your child's turn. Maths homework due in. Visiting the Woods, the children will still need wellies but hopefully not the extra layers of clothing and waterproofs!

Thursday - PE lesson - PE kit needed.

As detailed above PE sessions will be on Mondays and Thursdays but especially through the summer term we may make the most of the opportunity to get outside on other days of the week so PE kits are needed in school each day. As the weather gets warmer it is advisable to include a pair of shorts and a hat in PE kits.

Reading records need to be in school each day. The children are expected to read at home at least 3 times a week. This will gain them a success stamp if it has been recorded in their Homework Diary and signed at home by an adult.

This term we will be introducing the Year 1 Reading Awards - this is an incentive to encourage reading and boost their enthusiasm for reading at this crucial stage. It has been so great to see so many of the children's reading take off last term and hopefully this will help this to continue. Each child receives a Reading Passport and they need to select a book from the special reading awards box and each time they have finished reading one they will receive a stamp on their passport, please record reading of Reading Awards books in Reading Records too. After they have read 4 books they receive a Bronze certificate, after 6 books it's a silver certificate and after 8 they get GOLD.

Our topic for term 5 is science based looking at plants, which will involve us looking at plants in our local habitats and gardens, growing seeds, trying various plants to eat and some cooking using plants.

In term 6 the topic will be Seaside holidays from the past; this is a history topic so we will be looking at how things have changed particularly from Victorian times.

In English we are looking at fairy tales including 'Jack and the Beanstalk' and the 'Enormous Turnip' providing a great link to our science topic. After this we will move on to reading and writing explanation texts

Sycamore's mathematics lessons this term will continue to develop our skills in counting, addition and subtraction, finding fractions of shapes and amounts, 2D and 3D shapes, time and money. These lessons are consolidated with homework each week. We are moving onto grouping and sharing too, which is a first look at multiplication and division. Any support you can give your child in recognising numbers to 100, and counting in steps of 2s, 5s and 10s, will be really appreciated.

RE lessons in term 5 and 6 are looking at aspects of Judaism starting with the importance of Shabbat for Jews.

One date for the diary is Friday 5th May. We will be having our class assembly in the morning, beginning at 9.15am and you are most welcome to join us. This is a chance for the class to show the school and their parents some of their work and achievements. It also is a great opportunity for the children to practice talking in front of large groups, a nerve-wracking experience at any age!

In the week beginning Monday 12th June the children will be undertaking the National Phonics Check individually with ourselves. The check is much like an individual phonics session so won't be anything different to the normal classroom activities, but it is important that the children are in school for this week.

May we also take this opportunity to thank those parents who have helped out in class over the year so far and to welcome any other offers of help during this busy last couple of terms. Please keep an eye on the Woodland helpers sign-up sheet as it is such a shame when we have to miss the trip due to lack of adult help.

Finally, if you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact either of us.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Barratt and Mrs Blacker