



## Sycamore & Maple Class Newsletter – Autumn Term 2022

Teachers: Miss Letchford & Mrs Smith (Maple); Mrs Old & Mrs Smith (Sycamore),  
Teaching Assistants: Mrs Sorrell, Miss Riley, Mrs Thomas & Miss Lowe (Maple); Mrs Morgan, Mrs Brown, Miss O'Hare (Sycamore)



### Welcome to Year 2

It is great to be back to a new school year at Emscote! We plan to spend the first few weeks settling back in to school life, getting to know the children and to understand where the gaps in learning are so that we can support every child in their learning whilst in Year 2. This newsletter summarises subject area coverage, routines and expectations to support learning.

#### Literacy and Topic

Our literacy and topic learning this term will focus on Healthy World: Healthy Me – looking at keeping active, eating a balanced diet, finding out where our food comes from and how we can look after our world to make it a 'healthier' place to live. Looking at healthy living further, we will create our own Mr Men/Little Miss

book called MR. HEALTHY. We will be designing our own characters and homes, then create a scenario to help Mr. Lazy or Mr. Greedy to change their unhealthy ways.

As well as targeted phonics teaching we will have weekly SPaG lessons which focus on the spelling, punctuation and grammar used within the English language. The children are learning joined handwriting, but correct letter and number formation is essential for this to be successful.

#### Science

We are excited about our science learning this term which will link in to our topic. Starting with 'Animals including Humans', we will learn about simple lifecycles, the basic needs for animals to survive, growth from baby to adulthood, eating the right foods and understand the need for basic hygiene. We will then continue to look at 'Living Things and their Habitats'.



#### Maths

Our maths starts this year by securing knowledge gained in Reception and Year 1 and extending into the Year 2 curriculum with an understanding of place value, addition, subtraction, estimating, measurement, money and shape.

It is really important that children understand numbers really well and can talk about how they are made up of 10s and 1s, 1 or 10 more, 1 or 10 less and pairs of numbers that are added together to make another number including number bonds to 10 and 20. We will also use our 'sticks and dots' method for addition and subtraction.

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#### Other Subject Areas

A lot of our curriculum is creative and we try to incorporate other subject areas such as music, art, geography and history into our topic work. In RE we will be encouraging pupils to learn about different religions, beliefs, values and traditions while exploring their own thoughts. This term, our focus festivals will be Diwali (Hindu) and Christmas (Christian).

Talking time sessions will take place regularly where the children will get the chance to discuss their thoughts, feelings and emotions, including the Warwickshire 'Taking Care' PSHE programme. This is particularly important to support the children's mental health with the ever-changing situation.

### Reading

We aim to carry out Shared Reading in class a few times a week along with at least two individual reads. Do talk to your child about the stories and books that we talk about in school as it is a good way for them to talk about different book styles. As soon as reading books need changing and you feel your child is reading it fluently and can discuss the book, they **MUST** put their reading packets in the changing box inside the classroom. Please encourage them to do this first thing in the morning. It gives us the opportunity to change the book, read with them and update their in-school reading record to review progress - thank you.

**Please remember that our expectation is that you will read 4 times a week at home please!**

### Handwriting

Children will continue to be taught the new cursive style which will support their progress to joined up handwriting this year.

### Homework and Spellings

We will endeavour to send homework out on a **Thursday**. It would be great to see 100% return of homework by the following **Tuesday**. Phonics will continue in school. Children are often not in the same class for phonics as it is streamed on ability across Year 2. Spellings for the term are in homework books. Please work with your child to help them learn to read, write and spell these words. **The children are tested on their spellings every Friday.**



**PE:** Maple and Sycamore Class will have Netball or Basketball on a **Tuesday**; Tennis on a **Wednesday** for the first 4 weeks and then Handball or Yoga on a **Thursday** for the rest of the autumn term. *Please can they come to school dressed in their P.E. kit with appropriate footwear on those days, we will be outside whenever possible.*



### Staying Safe

Keeping every child safe is our priority. It is really important that all children understand the importance of our cleaning routines and regular handwashing.



### Mathletics

Please support your child's maths learning at home by using Mathletics. We will endeavour to set a task linked to our class learning weekly. The log-ins are in the front of homework books.  
[www.mathletics.co.uk](http://www.mathletics.co.uk)

### Outdoor Clothing

As the weather starts to change and become more unpredictable, it would be very useful if the children could start bringing a named coat with them so that they may still play outside if there is light rain. We would also appreciate the children bringing to school a pair of named welly boots that they can leave at school and change into during break times in order to access the field and muddy areas.

### Water bottles and toast

Please can children continue to bring to school a full water bottle each day.  
Toast is now paid for online termly to reduce administration and avoid confusion.

**If you have any questions or concerns, please let us know. If you need to see us we tend to have more time at the end of the day, but we will have to maintain social distancing measures and meet on the playground. You can email the office at [admin2332@welearn365.com](mailto:admin2332@welearn365.com) to contact us as well.**