

Sycamore and Maple Class Newsletter – Spring Term 2023

Teachers: Miss Letchford, Mrs Old, Mrs Smith

Teaching Assistants: Mrs Sorrell, Mrs Morgan, Mrs Thomas, Mrs Brown, Miss O'Hare, Miss Riley

Welcome back to a new term at Emscote. We hope you had an enjoyable holiday and would like to wish you all a happy and peaceful 2023. We have hit the ground running as usual and thought you might appreciate an update of what this term holds in store.



Literacy and Topic

Our literacy and topic learning this term will focus on 'Space'.

To introduce our new topic we were delighted to welcome back the visiting planetarium during the second week. This was linked to our space-themed dressing up day where we also hope to create some green screen action!

We will be finding out lots of interesting things about our Solar System – especially Earth and the Moon, including learning about important people who have travelled in space. We will also be reading lots of stories about space including One Giant Leap and Man on the Moon. The children will do DT based projects including making a 3D solar system and creating moon buggies.

Alongside this we will have weekly SPaG lessons which focus on the spelling, punctuation and grammar used within the English language.



Maths

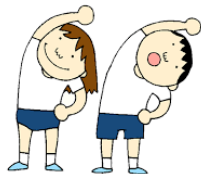
We will continue to focus on number, addition and subtraction (using sticks and dots) as well as beginning to introduce multiplication and division, plus looking at fractions of number and shape. We will also cover short topics on measure including reading scales for length, weight and temperature. Telling the time (analogue) is an ongoing focus but we would appreciate it if this could be reinforced at home too. Please encourage regular access to Mathletics as well. We will endeavour to start setting tasks linked to our learning where appropriate. The log-ins are in homework books.

$$\begin{array}{c} 3 \times 2 = 6 \\ \square \div \square = \square \end{array}$$

PE

Wednesdays: Gymnastics

Thursday: Multi-skills and circuits



Games lessons are weather dependent and where possible will be outside. Please ensure children come to school in a suitable winter kit including tracksuit bottoms, a jumper and suitable shoes.

Science

We are excited about our Science learning this term because we are planning to do some practical investigations with the children. We will be trying to encourage them to question, predict, observe and record using lots of scientific language. We will also be concluding our topic on Healthy Living and moving on to a new topic about Materials.



Other Subject Areas

Much of our curriculum is creative and we try to incorporate other subject areas such as Music, ICT, Art, Geography and History in to our topic work.

In ICT we will be programming Beebots and continuing using our welearn logins to access the iPads and laptops.



In RE we cover many different religions – our focus for this term will be learning about Muslims and what they believe as well as celebrating the major festivals of Chinese New Year and Easter.

Reading

Your child will have now received their new 'Spring Term Reading Diary'. We would like reading books and diaries to be in school daily.

We aim to do at least one individual read each week within school. If reading books need changing, your child 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 and update their reading record - thank you.

We would also encourage parents to read the notes in the front and back of the reading diary to give some guidance when listening to your child to read.

Please remember that our expectation is that ALL children will read 4 times a week at home.

We are enjoying the 'Reading for Pleasure' choices – look out for when it's your child's turn to choose their favourite book!

Library time has been a great hit with the children. They are really enjoying choosing their own books. Library time is on a Monday this term. Please return any books you have at home or inform us of any lost books so we can get your child started again.



If you have any questions or concerns, please come in and see us. We have more time at the end of the day. Please let us know if anyone different is picking up your child so that we can make a note of it.

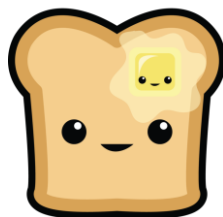
Clothing for Colder Weather

Please ensure your child comes in with a named, warm, waterproof coat every day. They are also welcome to bring in a pair of named wellies as we do encourage the grassy area to be used throughout the year – and they can visit our resident chickens!



Parent Teacher Meetings

Please look out on the Newsletters. Dates will be announced shortly.



Toast –

Thank you so much for paying on line. This has made the organisation of toast time so much easier.



Homework and Spellings

We endeavour to send homework out on a Thursday. It would be great to see 100% return of homework books by the following Tuesday. This allows us to mark and prepare them in time.

Phonics will continue in school. Children are often not in the same class for phonics as it is streamed on ability and individual needs.

Spellings for the first half term are sent home in the first week with the homework books. Please work with your child to help them learn to read and write these words. It is an expectation for children at the end of Year 2 to be able to spell accurately a range of words.

The children are tested on these every Friday.

Learning Together Workshops

We hope you have now all signed up to one of the 'Learning Together' Workshops. This time we are focussing on writing. This is a great opportunity for you to see not only what is being taught, but also **how** certain things are taught in class

The children really look forward to their grown up coming into school to work with them. So please inform us at your earliest convenience if you are not able to attend. We ask this because there will be a series of homework tasks that will follow on from the workshop. We would like you to support your child with this homework and this may be easier for you and the child if you have been supported in school first.

Water Bottles

Please make sure your child has a filled water bottle at school every day so that children can have a drink during the day.