



Welcome to Sycamore Class

Welcome back to year 5 after the Christmas break. I hope that you had a good time and some rest! In Sycamore Class, we are looking forward to a full term of learning. We have some exciting projects and new topics to explore.

This half term we are ...

<p>English</p> 	<p>In English we are starting the term with a new text called 'Shackleton'. This is a non-fiction text that follows the adventures of Shackleton and his crew. We will have an emphasis on writing, using all the punctuation techniques that we have learnt about last term. Such as: fronted adverbials, parenthesis, relative clauses and much more. We will also be reading a variety of different texts and exploring a variety of narratives, characters and settings. We expect the children to continue to read regularly at home and practice their weekly spellings.</p>
<p>Maths</p> 	<p>In Maths, we start the term by continuing to work on multiplication and division. We are looking at partitioning and will then move on to both long and short division and multiplication. We are also focusing initially on perimeter and area.</p> <p>This term we will be revising our times tables, working at remembering them at speed. There will be weekly tests. Please remind your child to practise these as much as they can.</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Science</p> 	<p>In Science, we are starting the term investigating electricity. We will initially move on from our work about atoms to discover more about static electricity. In science, we start each topic by carrying out experiments and writing them up. We will carry out research and write reports about our findings.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">History</p> 	<p>We are excited to be learning about American Independence in History. This is following on from our last topic which was called 'How Britain Gained an Empire'. This will explore how the English arrived in America and settled into colonies and how America grew and then became independent.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Geography</p> 	<p>In Geography we are learning about Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific. Anything that you have at home that the children might like to show representing these places would be great. We will start by focusing on how the world is split into 7 continents and then focus in. We will also learn the Haka!</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Art</p> 	<p>We will continue to find out about different Artists this term. We are beginning the term looking at some Art from Africa, specifically from Mali. We will make our own tribal masks using shape, colour and pattern. Later we will be creating our own version of an African sculpture based on the Bamana Tribe headdresses.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">P.E</p> 	<p>We have two P.E sessions a week, the first on a Monday with our P.E specialist and the second on a Friday afternoon. Please can you make sure that your children have their P.E kit in for all lessons.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Homework</p> 	<p>Homework comes home on a Thursday and needs to be back in school the following Monday. There will be one main piece of work each week alongside a specific focus on times tables and 6 key spellings. These will be tested on a Monday.</p>

We really look forward to getting to working with your children this term and excited that we have a new teacher: Mrs C. Powell teaching with us for the rest of the year. This enables us to split the class into two smaller groups of 15 for English and Maths lessons. This is a great opportunity and creates more time for each child to be supported in their learning on a daily basis.

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us. We hope that they will enjoy this term, becoming happy and engaged in their learning.

Please remember to keep reading regularly with your child 😊 and make sure that your child has a water bottle to drink from during the day.

Mrs J. Coleman, Mrs C. Powell, Ms Umutoni and Mrs Mitsi