

## Message from the Sycamore Staff Team

A very happy new year to you all and we hope you have a positive and prosperous 2024. Myself and Mrs Morley would like to say a very big thank you for all your gifts and kind messages over the festive period. We appreciated every single one of them.

The Christmas period was a long but very exciting and busy time for the Sycamore Class and we are sure that the children enjoyed every minute of their learning, crafting and performing! It is fantastic to see the children's enthusiasm and willingness to build their resilience as well as building some great memories.

Sycamore's will be busy again this term as myself and Mrs Morley will continue to develop the children's art. We are looking forward to producing some great work for our Picture This project this year and in time you will see the children's work displayed in the classroom, along the school corridors and on the class webpage.

To add even more excitement to our classroom this term, please keep offering or volunteering members of your family to be a mystery reader. The children love sharing the books that they are reading at home.

As always should you have any questions or concerns related to your child, please don't hesitate to email or ring the school office and either Mrs Pullin or Mrs Morley will contact you as soon as we are able. This is always easier than trying to catch us before school.

*Mrs Pullin and Mrs Morley*

## Important Information

| Day       | Who's in class                                | Extra info   |
|-----------|---|--|
| Monday    | Mrs Pullin (all day)<br>Mrs Morley (all day)  | Morning Reading Practice<br>Introduce new phonics; phase 5 graphemes                         |
| Tuesday   | Mrs Pullin (all day)<br>Mrs Morley (all day)  | Morning Reading Practice   |
| Wednesday | Mrs Pullin (all day)<br>Mrs Morley (AM)       | Gymnastics Workshop Morning<br>New spellings introduced in class<br>Morning Reading Practice |
| Thursday  | Mrs Pullin (8.30-1pm)<br>Mrs Morley (all day) | Reading for Pleasure book time<br>PE afternoon   |
| Friday    | Mrs Pullin (all day)                          | Spellings and Tricky Words practice<br>PE afternoon  |

## Spellings

This term the children will focus on spelling the Common Exception Words.

Please practice their year group words at home regularly as the children will complete a spelling test at the beginning of each term.

| Year 1 |          | Year 2   |             |
|--------|----------|----------|-------------|
| Autumn | Spring 1 | Autumn   | Spring 1    |
| the    | is       | door     | most every  |
| a      | his      | floor    | wild great  |
| do     | has      | poor     | climb break |
| to     | I        | because  | only steak  |
| today  | you      | find     | pretty both |
| of     | your     | kind     | beautiful   |
| said   | they     | mind     | old         |
| says   | be       | behind   | cold        |
| are    | he       | child    | gold        |
| were   | me       | children | hold        |

### **Key Note**

PE - children come to school in their PE kit for the day, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

*Please take earrings out and tie up long hair* as it makes it easier for the children.

If earrings cannot be removed then, please provide sterile tape to cover them during the lesson.

***Children will be required to take off and put on their shoes, please ensure they wear shoes that they can tie independently.***

### **Expectations of you and your child**

- To come in every day with the aim of being positive, ready to learn and trying to be the best they can be!
- To read at least 4 times per week and record in their learning log
- Learning logs and reading books handed in on Monday for checking
- To complete a phonics game on Active Learn Phonics Bug at least once a week
- To be active on Numbots /TTR (Year 2) at least once a week

### **Ways to Help your Child**

- Ensure your child knows the Phase 3, 4 and 5 sounds from the sound mat in the learning log and the Phase 2-5 tricky words.
- Practise reading and spelling some of the 'zero tolerance' words and 'Year 1 and 2 word list'
- Know the 'Days of the week' song and sing it together (Addams family theme tune)
- Write the days of the week and months of the year, sequence these and talk about the seasons
- Read the time together- o'clock only!
- Recognising and discuss sequences of time- what do they do in the morning, afternoon etc.
- Practise counting to 20 and recognising numbers both before and after a given number
- To support your child in forming their letters and numbers correctly (our handwriting style is in the learning log)
- Visit active learn for additional books- see the front page of the learning log for logins. If you require more books, please see myself or Mrs Morley.
- Visit 'teach your monster to read' this website is great and will help your child with their phonic sounds.
- Listen to your child read and discuss their BUG club book together, ask questions e.g. Which is your favourite character and why? What happened in the middle of the story? Can you think of another ending or new title for this book?
- Complete the challenges set in the learning log.
- Encourage your child to get dressed and undressed independently; tying/untying their shoes as the children need to change them quickly for indoor and outdoor activities and take care of their belongings. (please write your child's name in their belongings).

### **What we will be learning this term**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>English Focus texts (used in class)</b><br/>The Highway Rat – Fiction/ Rhyme by Julia Donaldson<br/>Funny Bones – Fiction/Rhyme by Janet and Allan Ahlberg<br/>Cops and Robbers – Fiction by Janet and Allan Ahlberg</p> <p><b>Additional texts</b><br/>Burglar Bill<br/>Spyder – Fiction/Place Value<br/>Into the Forrest – Fiction</p> | <p><b>Maths Concepts covered-</b><br/>Year 1 - Place value within 50, Length and Height, Mass and Volume, Addition and subtraction within 20.</p> |
|--|---|

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>Focus Text Types (taught in class)</b><br/>         We will continue our focus on writing a correctly punctuated and organised sentence and the text types the children may know such as Report/ Poem/ Non-Chronological</p>   | <p>Year 2 – Money, Multiplication and Division, Mass, Capacity and Temperature.</p> |
| <p><b>Other Curricular areas:</b><br/>         We will be looking at Remembrance Sunday and the symbol of the poppy in History.<br/>         Science- We will continue to follow the seasonal changes observing our class tree and begin our investigations of everyday materials.<br/>         In Art, we will be learning new techniques through pattern making with different sources for texture such as paint, pastel, light/dark pencil and crayon focusing on the artist Henri Matisse<br/>         In our music lessons, we will be practicing songs for our Christmas Show performance and in PE, we will be building skills in movement and dance.</p> |   |

**Don't Forget Useful Websites to Help Your Child's Learning**

| Website  | Resources  |
|--|--|
| <a href="http://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk">www.activelearnprimary.co.uk</a>     | A variety of colour banded eBooks allocated to your child individually   |
| <a href="http://www.harthillprimary.co.uk">http://www.harthillprimary.co.uk</a>    | Showcasing your child's learning with photographs and information like the school's Calculation policy. (Go to Key information. Curriculum. Maths)                                     |
| <a href="http://www.teachyourmonstertoread.com">www.teachyourmonstertoread.com</a> | Games using phonics recognising letters and their sounds.  |
| <a href="http://www.topmarks.co.uk">www.topmarks.co.uk</a>                         | A variety of activities across all subjects. Click on select an age group then key stage 1. Your child will recognise some of these games as we use them in class e.g. hit the button. |
| <a href="https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk">https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk</a>          | Recap of phonic knowledge, covering the phases 1-6. Play games like 'picnic on Pluto' using blending skills and find the real or alien words.  |