

Sycamore Class

Autumn Term 2026

Welcome back! We hope you and your families have had a wonderful summer break and are looking forward to an exciting year ahead in Year 3. We have lots of exciting learning opportunities planned for the Autumn Term, and we cannot wait to get started.

Who's Who?

I am Mrs Merrick, and I will be your class teacher. I will be teaching the class from Monday to Thursday. We are delighted to have Mrs Dunn teaching on Thursday afternoons and all day on Fridays.

Mrs Adams will be working with us from Monday to Thursday, and we are very pleased to welcome a new member of staff, Mrs Elston, who will be with us on Fridays. Mrs Porter will continue to support our class throughout the week.

What Are We Going to Be Learning About This Term?

English

To begin with, we will spend time focusing on handwriting, spelling, grammar and punctuation. We will cover all the key skills needed to become confident and successful Year 3 writers. We will then create our own riddles, write historical stories and construct calligram poems.

Reading

In Guided Reading lessons, we will continue to explore texts using our VIPERS skills (Vocabulary, Inference, Predict, Explain, Retrieve, Summarise and Sequence). New reading books will be sent home each Thursday. We encourage children to read each book four times to help develop fluency and confidence. Every time your child reads at home, they will receive a raffle ticket. At the end of each half term, lucky winners will be chosen to receive a special treat, so keep reading!

Maths

We will begin the term by exploring place value in numbers up to 1,000 before moving on to addition and subtraction of three-digit numbers. During the second half of the term, we will focus on multiplication and division. The children will learn to identify the correct operation needed to solve problems and use efficient methods when multiplying and dividing two-digit numbers by one-digit numbers.

Science

In Science, we will learn about different types of rocks and how fossils are formed. The children will work scientifically by observing, identifying key features, classifying and carrying out investigations. In the second half of the term, we will learn about Animals Including Humans, exploring nutrition, food labels, skeletons and muscles.

Geography

During the first half of the term, the children will learn about countries, cities and counties within the UK. They will also study National Parks across the UK and consider how we can preserve and respect these important environments. As part of this topic, we will enjoy a trip to Westonbirt Arboretum.

History

In the second half of the term, the children will learn about the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. We will also take part in a Stone Age workshop, giving the children a first-hand experience of what life was like during this fascinating period of history.

Religious Education (RE)

To begin the year, we will consider the question: "What might Christians learn from the Old Testament?" Later in the term, we will explore: "Why is Muhammad important to Muslims today?"

Computing

In Computing, we will learn about internet safety and explore the question, "What is a network?" We will investigate how websites work and follow the journey of a file across a network.

French

The children will begin learning French and will be taught how to greet others and say goodbye. They will also learn to count to ten and describe what they are wearing.

Art

We will explore drawing and painting, taking inspiration from the work of Leonardo da Vinci and Margaret Godfrey.

Music

In the first half of the term, the children will compose and improvise their own music based on *Let Your Spirit Fly*. In the second half of the term, the children will learn to play the notes C, D and E on the glockenspiel.

PE

PE lessons will take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please ensure your child has a fully named PE kit in school every week.

PSHE and Circle Time

We will be thinking about how and why we should value differences and always strive to be our best selves.

Class Novel

Our class novel this term will be *The Boy Who Grew Dragons*. We will read this together at the end of each day, and some of its themes will be explored further during our weekly P4C lessons.

Homework

Reading

- Read at least four times each week.

Spelling

- Complete spelling activities online using the Oxford Owl login, or the printed homework sent home.

Maths

- Complete activities online using Times Tables Rock Stars, or the printed homework sheet.

There is no expectation to complete both the online and printed homework. Every piece of homework completed will be celebrated and rewarded.

Communication

There will always be a member of staff at the classroom door each morning to welcome your child into school. Please use this opportunity to pass on any quick messages that we may need to know. For longer conversations, please speak to us at the end of the school day once the children have been dismissed. Alternatively, you can contact the school office, who will be happy to pass on any messages.

Looking Ahead

We are really looking forward to working with you and your child this year. Together, we are going to work hard, learn lots and have plenty of fun along the way!

Mrs Merrick and the Year 3 Team 😊