

## Sycamore & Maple Class Newsletter – Spring Term 2020

Teachers: Mrs Vallins & Mrs Stephenson; Miss Letchford & Mrs Smith

Teaching Assistants: Mrs Hinks, Mrs Dawe & Mrs Cuthbertson

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 2020. 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 are very excited to have a visiting planetarium dome coming to school on 16<sup>th</sup> January!

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

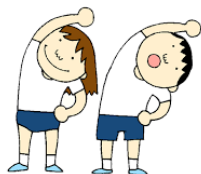
We will continue to focus on number, addition and subtraction (using sticks and dots) as well as beginning to introduce multiplication and division, plus looking at fractions of number and shape. We will also cover short topics on measure including reading scales for length, weight and temperature. Time is an ongoing focus but we would appreciate it if this could be reinforced at home too. Please also support your child at home in these areas and beyond using Mathletics. We will endeavour to set a task linked to our learning weekly. The log-ins are in homework books.

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### PE

**Wednesdays:** Premier Active games and skills lessons (outside)

**Thursdays:** Fiery Feet dance (hall)



Games lessons are weather dependent and where possible will be outside. Please ensure children have 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 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 continue our topic of Living things and their habitats.



### 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 computers at All Saints School in their ICT suite.



In RE we cover many different religions – our focus for this term will be 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 a group read once a week along with at least one individual read.

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.**



**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 write it on the board.**

**Parent Teacher Meetings are** Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February and Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February.

### Clothing for Colder Weather

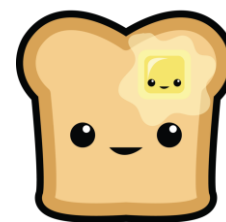
Please ensure your child comes in with a named, warm, waterproof coat every day. They are also welcome to bring in a pair of named wellies as we do encourage the grassy area to be used throughout the year – and they can visit our resident chickens!



**IMPACT** (Maths) is the week beginning 24<sup>th</sup> February. Please support your child and do come along!

**Toast** – 20p per slice at morning break.

Children can bring in £1 to give to Mrs Robertson on a Monday for the whole week if that is easier.



**Our sharing assemblies are at 9:10am:**

**Maple:** Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February

**Sycamore:** Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March

### 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 following week will be sent out with the homework on Thursday. Please learn to read and write these words as it is an expectation for children at the end of Year 2.

**The children are tested on these every Friday.**

### Online resources

The children have access to some great resources online. There is Mathletics which you know well. Additionally, by logging in with the @welearn365.com login you can access Purple Mash and Paint programmes. There is also Discovery Espresso which has many fantastic activities for all areas of the curriculum. Log-ins are in homework books.

### Water Bottles

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

There is an outside water fountain by Oak Class if you need to fill them!