



Sycamore and Maple Class Newsletter – Spring Term 2019

Teachers: Miss Letchford, Mrs Stephenson, Mrs Vallins and Mrs Smith

Teaching Assistants: Mrs Ormandy, Mrs Dawe and 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 2019.

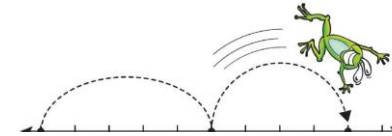
A huge THANK YOU for all the kind and thoughtful Christmas gifts which we really appreciate.

Literacy and Topic

Our literacy and topic learning this term will focus on 'Our World'. As Miss Letchford is off to visit our link school in Bo, Sierra Leone, our topic work is linked with her visit. Schools in both countries will be focussing on protecting the environment. We are looking at what we waste and what happens to it when we have thrown it away. As part of this work we will be making eco-bricks (have a look at <https://www.ecobricks.org> and try at home!) we are using the waste plastic from toast, fruit and milk to make ours in 500ml bottles. We are also looking at the geography of Warwick and will be studying maps and photos as well as going out and about once it's a bit warmer! 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, division and fractions. We will also cover short topics on data handling (drawing and reading simple graphs and charts) and using money. 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 the back of your homework book.



PE

Games lessons are weather dependent and where possible will be outside. Please have a suitable winter kit including tracksuit bottoms, a jumper and suitable shoes. **Sycamore and Maple Classes** will have Fiery Feet Dance every Thursday afternoon this term.

Kids Marathon: We are encouraging as many children to run the 100metre track during lunchtimes and playtimes. We hope to take as many children to the exciting festival of running in the Summer! Some children have already achieved half or even full marathons!

Science

Our Science will continue to look at living things and their habitats. We will look at ourselves, including our senses and changes as living things grow. This will link well with having living chicks in school after half term. We have workshops from Severn Trent Water to support our science investigation learning.



Other Subject Areas

A lot 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 our ICT we will be using some equipment called OSMO which has activities to develop the children's understanding of number, shape and spelling. We will also be using the I-pads for coding, recording short sequences linked to our topic work.

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 yellow '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.

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.

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's learning of spellings will be checked on a Friday.

Parents' Evening is Tuesday 5th February from 5:00pm and Wednesday 6th February from 3:15pm.

IMPACT (Maths) is the week beginning 11th March; specific dates to follow.

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!



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: Wednesday 10th April

Sycamore: Friday 8th March

Water Bottles

Please make sure your child brings a water bottle in to school each day so that they can keep hydrated.

