

Sycamore Class Autumn letter



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school and what promises to be another exciting year for all the children in Sycamore. This is an exciting time for the children and me as we begin a new year together. In this letter, I hope to provide useful information regarding your children's learning.

Project based learning

At Waltham-on-the Wolds, we are adopting a new approach, where each class takes an essential question as a part of a project and attempts to answer it creatively and imaginatively. In Sycamore Class our Autumn project and essential question is "What makes a survivor?" We will be studying the World Wars and incorporating ways in which we can survive today when we find things difficult. At the end of the project you will be invited in to our class to see all the wonderful work the children have produced during the topic.

Book Study

To support the learning through this first unit of work we will be reading "I was There.....Alone in the Trenches" and "War Horse". These two texts will be used to allow the children to engage with events of the war and also imagine that they were really there. At the end of this unit of work we will be taking all the children to see a live performance of War Horse in Nottingham, further details will follow shortly about this trip.

Timetable

Below is a weekly timetable for Sycamore Class, explaining the range of activities the children will be doing each week and the appropriate clothing the children will need.

Day	Activity	Clothing
Monday	Normal routine	School uniform.
Tuesday	Dance lessons	Children wear their P.E. Kit
Wednesday	Normal Routine	School Uniform
Thursday	Physical Education	Children wear their P.E kit.
Friday	Normal Routine	School Uniform

Homework

Each week the children will be set a piece of homework. Homework will be sent out on a Friday and should be returned by the following Wednesday. Homework will vary to include English, Maths, Science and project work.

In addition, the children will receive weekly spellings. Spellings will be sent out on Monday and the children will be tested on the following Monday. This allows the children a week to learn and practise their spellings in school and at home.

Finally, the children will continue to take reading books home. Please record your child's reading and any other important messages, in their 'Home-Link' book.

Seesaw

Seesaw has proved such an excellent communication resource, that we will be continuing to use it this year. I am looking forward to sharing the children's work and achievements.

I understand, and appreciate, that some children will be sitting entrance exams for the grammar schools in a few weeks' time and will be busy revising for them. However, as we are an inclusive school all children will be set school homework in the usual manner, particularly as our work is linked to the National Curriculum. Therefore, as a parent you will need to balance the pressure of work they are doing at home for school with relevant exercises you have organised to them, alongside adequate rest, relaxation and sleep.

Hopefully, by working together your child will have a stress-free term so please contact me if you need to.

I am excited to be working with you and your child/children this year, sharing many new learning opportunities and adventures.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Garnett.