

September 2020

Key
Stage 2

Sycamore Class



New Class Information
Class Teacher - Mr Powell
Teaching Assistant - Mrs Blanch
Key Stage Leader - Mr A Nash



Welcome to our first newsletter of the new school year! As we return after a difficult time, I wanted to thank you for your support during the lockdown. We are making sure that school returns as safely as possible.

Our learning

English: The whole school is using the book 'Here We Are' by Oliver Jeffers which provides themes for coming back together as a group. It is full of reflection of our time during lockdown and provides opportunities for children to talk and discuss feelings. We will be focusing on writing with description and will be using skills such as adjectives, adverbs, fronted adverbials and expanded noun phrases in our writing. We will continue with our high expectations for presentation and handwriting.

Maths: Maths is being taught in year groups this year. Mrs Chell is teaching Year 4 and Mr Powell is teaching Year 5. To start the year, we will begin with place value. Addition and subtraction, multiplication and division and length and perimeter are some of the upcoming topics. Throughout, we will work hard on times tables with the goal being instant recall of all multiplication facts up to 12x12.

Dinners

All dinners in KS2 are payable using Parent Pay. See Mrs Bagnall for details.

Snack

Please send snack money in on a Monday morning in a clearly marked envelope. See over for more details.



School Uniform

Uniform consists of white shirt, school tie, grey trousers or skirt, blue school jumper or cardigan, black school shoes. Grey shorts and red summer dresses may be worn in warmer weather. Please do not send your child to school in trainers. PE Kit is a white t-shirt, black shorts and black pumps (all clearly marked with their name).

On Mondays, children will not wear their uniform as they need to wear clothes appropriate for our new outdoor learning lessons.

On Tuesdays, children will come to school in their PE kits and wear them all day. PE will be outside as often as possible so clothing needs to keep them warm.

Science: Year 4 will begin by studying sound and electricity and Year 5 will be learning about forces and properties & changes of materials.

Computing: Mr Nash will be teaching about using computers safely.

Topic: Miss Heathcote will be teaching the Anglo-Saxons and about Europe to Year 4 and Ancient Greece and food to Year 5.

Homework

The children will have three books for work at home: home school link (English), daily calculations (Maths) and a reading record.

On the first page of their home school link book, there is more information on this (including hand-in days for each).

Expectations

We have high expectations of the children and expect them to do their best at all times. We want the children to take pride in their work and in their achievements. We have many reward systems in the class, including stickers, raffle tickets and celebration awards.

Remember: The classroom door is always open should you need to speak to any member of staff about any updates or concerns connected with your child. The class teacher is always your first point of contact.

You can also contact Mrs Prideaux on her email:
julieprideaux@heathcote.staffs.sch.uk

Reading

We will have dedicated guided reading lessons. Some will take part in reading interventions too. Also, pupils will have the opportunity take books from the school library on a regular basis. This will be supported with the use of reading records for home reading.

We use VIPERS in Guided Reading (these are the skills that will be developed):

V (vocabulary)

I (inference)

P (prediction)

E (explain)

R (retrieval)

S (summarise)

Also, we are looking at reading techniques, such as text mapping and the PEE model.

Please encourage reading at home. It is incredibly important that they are reading good-quality books that they enjoy and a range of other materials. Spellings and vocabulary will be developed through reading and this will help with progression in writing.



Snacks

In KS2 children have the option of purchasing fruit, a drink and a breakfast biscuit for £2.50 or a breakfast biscuit and a drink for £2.00.

Money is to be paid in class on Monday morning.

Note: Snack cannot be bought daily, only weekly.

The school is a healthy school, so only fruit (no crisps, chocolate or other snacks) can be brought in from home.