



Dear Sycamore class children and parents,

Welcome to Spring term everyone! I hope you have all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year break with your family and friends. We are so excited to everybody's smiling faces again! This term, I (Mr Clayton) is joining Sycamore class, and I will be working alongside Mrs Cheaney. Mrs Cheaney will be teaching all day on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Mr Clayton will be teaching on Thursday and Friday. Make sure you say hello on the door! We will continue to be expertly supported by Mrs Thompson in the mornings and Miss Kelly in the afternoons. I am very excited to get started in Sycamore and to get to know everybody even better.

Maths:

We start the half-term by revising some of the multiplication skills from before Christmas before moving on to use these skills in division. Later in the term, we will look at data collection, tables and graphs. We will have a dedicated reasoning day on a Thursday, and Fridays will be spent learning about all the different types of measurement we use in daily life.

English:

Our next class text will be "Grandad's Camper" where we will go on an adventure with a girl and her Gramps. We will be doing lots of writing along the way, but our main target is to write our own story using our own real-life adventures.

Science:

Our next topic in science is "Forces and Magnets." We will be exploring how objects move, what forces are, and how magnets work. The children will learn about pushes, pulls, friction, and magnetic attraction and repulsion. If your child would like to find out more about magnets at home, you could search for "Magnet Experiments for Kids" on YouTube for some simple activities to try.

Geography:

In geography will be learning about Antarctica. We will explore the human and physical features of Antarctica, compare those to Whitehaven and we will be deciding whether we would like to live in Antarctica or if indeed we *actually* could. We will be learning about a very famous explorer, Ernest Shackleton and investigating his expedition to Antarctica on his ship 'Endurance' and will find out if he made it... Throughout our topic, we will also be learning the various points of a compass and using these skills to plan our own expedition around school. It is going to be very exciting!

We will be learning about safety in PSHE, painting with mixed media in art, improving our typing skills in computing and developing our singing skills in music. RE will continue to look at the different religions of the world with a focus on the Jewish Passover and in French we will be learning lots of different colours and shape names (in French)!

PE DAYS:

PE has changed to Friday this half term. If you are having difficulty in providing a PE kit for your child, then please come and speak to us. It is easier if kits remain in school all week in case of changes.

See you all soon,
Mrs Cheaney and Mr Clayton