



King's Academy Oakwood

**WELCOME
BACK!**

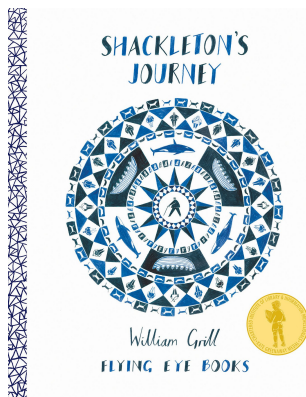
Welcome to Sycamore Class!

September 2023

Welcome to an exciting new year in Sycamore! We hope you've had a great start to the school year and are excited for the adventures ahead. As we begin the autumn term, we have a number of interesting activities and topics planned for you. Prepare to enter a world of exploration, creativity, and learning.

English

This term in English, we will be producing endurance tales based on our class text, 'Shackleton's Journey,' with a focus on using fronted adverbials and using powerful verbs and adjectives to improve our writing. We will also write an information piece based on our new knowledge about the Antarctic from Shackleton's point of view. In this piece of writing, we will practise utilising commas for clarification and brackets to add further information.



We will be working on a time portal tale related to our historical theme of Ancient Egypt, as well as a persuasive letter related to our class text of 'Boy' by Roald Dahl, after half term.

Reading

This half term, in class we will be reading Skellig and during guided reading we will be studying 'Shackleton's Journey'. After half term, we will read 'Wonder' as our class reader, and study 'Boy' by Roald Dahl.

Maths

We begin the term with recapping our place value knowledge; including representing, rounding and comparing numbers to a million, negative numbers and Roman numerals. Our second block is focusing on addition and subtraction, developing our understanding of using the column method, using inverse operations to check answers, and multi-step problems.

After half term, we move on to learning about multiplication and division. This learning will be related to factors, square and cube numbers, and dividing by multiples. We then move on to measurement, with a focus on compound shapes, irregular shapes and rectangles,

Science

Our first science unit will teach us about properties and changes of materials. We will be learning about different materials, their uses and their properties. We will be sorting and classifying objects, as well as exploring the properties of materials most suitable for different purposes.

After half term, we will be learning about living things and their habitats, in which we will investigate the life cycle of plants, mammals, amphibians, insects and birds. We will begin by reviewing the various parts of the flower before learning about different pollination methods. Following that, we will compare life cycles of various mammals and investigate the differences between these types of animals.

Humanities



This term, our Geography unit is Marvellous Maps. This allows us to further explore a range of maps available to geographers and develop our understanding of the key features of maps. We will study a range of maps, atlases and digital maps to compare features. We will also learn to use an eight-digit compass to give directions, and grid references to locate places precisely.

After half term, we will start on an exciting journey through time to study the fascinating world of Ancient Egypt. First, we'll learn when and where the Ancient Egyptians lived, as well as the intriguing link between their time and a period in British history. Following that, we'll look at the fundamental principles and ideas that Ancient Egyptians held dear. Mummification's perplexing process will be unravelled, shedding light on its profound significance to the ancient Egyptians. In addition, we'll look at how life differed for different members of Egyptian society.



Art and DT

This half term in DT, we're diving into the world of culinary creativity as we learn to craft delectable seasonal soups. Our journey will encompass understanding seasonality, researching international soup recipes, crafting a design brief, sampling a variety of soups available today, honing essential knife skills, and ultimately, cooking our very own flavorful soups. Get ready for a flavorful adventure in the kitchen!

We'll be delving into the world of art influenced by the amazing British artist Steven Wiltshire after the half-term break. Steven is a landscape artist whose extraordinary talent has enthralled audiences as he creates mostly by memory. We will be exploring the art of generating texture and refining our pencil techniques during this time.

RE

This half term, we will be learning about Sikhism. We will be learning about how far a Sikh would go for his or her religion, comparing different ways Sikhs put their religion into practice, and how these values transfer into everyday life.

After half term, we will be learning about the Christmas story, and asking the question 'Is the Christmas story true?'

Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) Education

This half term, our PSHE topic is Achievements and Careers. We will learn to recognise our strengths and achievements and how these contribute to a sense of self-worth. We will learn about the range of jobs/careers that people can have and what might influence or deter people from aspiring to certain jobs. After half term, we will learn about personal safety and risks, including the importance of age restrictions. We will learn about different situations (e.g. fire, home medicines, railways) and strategies for how to keep ourselves safe.

Home Learning

In Year 5, home learning will consist of Reading, Times Tables, Spelling and an additional weekly task. Home learning tasks will be set on Google Classroom or sent in the children's books; the children should all have their logins. Children will also be provided with a homework book so they can complete tasks either in there or electronically.

Homework is to be completed and submitted electronically or written in the homework book and handed into class by the due date.

Reading at Home

Children will continue to bring home a book from the Reading Scheme (if appropriate) or a book from the Year 5 suggested reading list as well as a weekly library book.

We expect children to be reading aloud at home on a daily basis. Please encourage your child to fill in Boom Reader every time they read. As well as helping your child with fluency, expression and word reading, it is important to discuss the text with your child to check their comprehension and understanding of the text.

Times Tables

Your child can continue to use their login for TimesTables Rockstars. 10 minutes of daily practice on this will help to improve the speed and accuracy of their recall. Super Movers on BBC is also a good way to practise.

Spelling

Please ensure children are learning their spelling words each week which can be found on Google Classroom as well as in their Homework books. These will also be available to practise on Spelling Shed

New Spellings set on Friday

Spelling homework due by Thursday

Spelling Tests on Friday

English and Maths homework

Children will have either a piece of English or maths homework set on a weekly basis. This homework will be set via Google Classroom.

New homework set on Friday

Homework due in by Thursday

Best Wishes,

Miss Bond