

Sycamore Class newsletter Autumn 1- Migration and Journeys.

Welcome to the first half term of Sycamore Class and our first newsletter. Below is an overview of our first topic 'migration and journeys'. This topic will explore the reasons why people and animals migrate, understanding migration throughout history to the present day. We will then be exploring the positives of making journeys to new places and some of the problems people face along the way. This newsletter is a quick update of everything happening in Sycamore this half term. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, feel free to speak to me at the beginning or end of the school day, or email me at sycamore@mundford.dneat.org. I look forward to an exciting half term!

English

In English, we will be focussing on these core texts.



Writing Outcomes: informal letters, poems, diary entries, advice. We will be using a world of journeys and migration as part of our reading lessons and to find out more about migration through history!

Maths

We are learning about Place Value in numbers up to 10 million. This will include:
 read, write, order and compare numbers up to 10,000,000 and determine the value of each digit
 round any whole number to a required degree of accuracy
 use negative numbers in context, and calculate intervals across 0
 solve number and practical problems that involve all of the above
Addition and subtraction: (revision from year 5):
 add and subtract whole numbers with more than 4 digits, including using formal written methods (columnar addition and subtraction)
 add and subtract numbers mentally with increasingly large numbers
 use rounding to check answers to calculations and determine, in the context of a problem, levels of accuracy
Year 6:
 solve addition and subtraction multi-step problems in contexts, deciding which operations and methods to use and why
 Arithmetic: short multiplication, adding and subtracting fractions with different denominators, adding decimals.

Science: Earth & Space

The circulatory system: How and why does blood move around our bodies? Why is its journey important?

Key Knowledge:

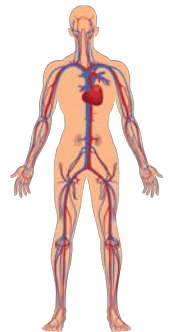
The heart pumps blood around the body. Oxygen is breathed into the lungs where it is absorbed by the blood.

Muscles need oxygen to create energy and to do work. (Oxygen is taken into the blood in the lungs; the heart pumps the blood through blood vessels to the muscles; the muscles take oxygen and nutrients from the blood.)

Our bodies need regular exercise and a balanced diet to stay healthy. Tobacco from cigarettes can clog arteries and reduce the effectiveness of our lungs.

Alcohol should be consumed in moderation. It can affect different organs of the body in larger amounts and affect judgement.

Key Vocab: Oxygenated, Deoxygenated, Valve, Exercise, Respiration Circulatory system, heart, lungs, blood vessels, blood, artery, vein, pulmonary, alveoli, capillary, digestive, transport, gas exchange, villi, nutrients, water, oxygen, alcohol, drugs, tobacco.



Geography:




Why do people migrate? Why do people leave? We will be looking at different push and pull factors, including natural disasters. We will be doing an in depth study into Earthquakes and volcanic eruptions!



History:

How did WW2 impact migration to and from the UK? We will be looking at evacuation during WW2 and the Windrush Generation who came to Britain after the war to help rebuild the country again.



Art	PSHE/RSE	PE	RE	Music
<p>We will be looking at the work of artist Lubaina Himid and recreating one of her pieces. Her work of people who were forced to migrate and work in other countries, showing how their journey changed their identity.</p>  	<p>Focus on New Beginnings <i>More information regarding the RSE content will be sent home before each lesson is taught.</i></p>	<p>Tuesdays: Swimming Wednesdays: Invasion games, netball.</p>	<p>How do Buddhists explain suffering?</p> 	<p>Looking at the piece Fingal's cave and understanding dynamics, pitch and texture.</p>

Homework

In Year 5 & 6, children should continue to read regularly and those who are not yet confident in times tables should be encouraged to keep playing on TT Rockstars.
Each week the children will also bring home their arithmetic tests so they can practice questions they found difficult.
Weekly homework is given out each Friday and marked the following Friday - this will alternate between Maths and English and be stuck in their homework books.

Half-term Homework Project: Art

What art skills have you learnt in previous classes? Can you remember an artist whose style you liked? Produce something to share what you know.
Art projects should be brought in on the last week of half-term – Monday 20th October 2025.