Sycamore Class Routines

Monday	**Bring in:** Home-school diary Drinks bottle and lunch box Homework due in PE kit
Tuesday	**Bring in:** Home-school diary Drinks bottle and lunch box PE kit
Wednesday	**Bring in:** Home-school diary Drinks bottle and lunch box Homework sent home House Badges
Thursday	**Bring in:** Home-school diary Drinks bottle and lunch box
Friday	**Bring in:** Home-school diary Drinks bottle and lunch box Spellings sent home

READING

In Sycamore class, we teach reading each day as a whole class. We have provided your child with a Home-School Reading Diary to enable us to monitor their reading at home and to communicate with you about any concerns in school. Please ensure that this (and their reading book) is in school **every** day. Reading regularly is proven to help not only their reading ability, but also their vocabulary, writing and spelling.

We ask the children to read to you or themselves at home **every** day and talk about the books together, whenever possible. Ideally, they should read at least a chapter (around 30 mins) of the book each day, so that they can immerse themselves in the story. It is important that, as well as being able to read the story, they show a good understanding of what has been read. Asking questions, where they have to infer information from the text, is an area that is particularly needed in upper KS2. We will be sending home a bookmark with a list of example questions to support your conversations with your child about the book they are reading. These will also be helpful as you can assess any misconceptions they may have about their text. The children will be able to have two reading books. One of them will be their Big Cat reading book. This is the book that the children should prioritise and the one we will keep a record of each day in school. If they would like to, the children could have a second book. This could be a book from home or school but we will encourage/guide the children to ensure the book they choose is appropriate for them.

HOMEWORK

As well as reading at home, Sycamore Class children will receive English and maths homework every week, which should take approximately 30 minutes each. It will be sent home on a **Wednesday** and will need to be returned the following **Monday**. We encourage the children to do their homework as soon as possible, so they can come and ask for help if they need it before the day it is due in! If children do not do their homework, they will have to stay in at **lunchtime** to complete it.

- **Maths**: 30/40 minutes of arithmetic based homework.
- **English**: 30/40 minutes of grammar/punctuation-based homework.
- **Spelling**: We are currently following a new phonics-based spelling scheme. Every week, the children will be exploring a new phoneme and will be given a list of words based on this. On Fridays, the children will have a dictation session where they will independently spell the words in their writing.

- **Additional research**: We encourage the children to read around our class topics at home and bring in any information they have found out, to share with the class.

Dependent on the task, homework will be differentiated so please don't worry if your child comes home with a slightly different piece of homework or list of spellings.

OTHER BITS

PE

PE happens twice a week (Mondays and Tuesdays) so your child needs to ensure they have the correct kit on the correct days. We advise the children to keep their kits in school every day. Children will **not** be able to participate in PE lessons if they do not have a **full** PE kit, including trainers. In cold weather, when we are outside, jogging bottoms and a jumper (not their school one) will be needed. T shirts should be white with a round neck (no buttons). **See the website for the full PE uniform list**. Please name all of your child's clothes. If your child has their ears pierced, please ensure that they are either able to take their earrings out themselves for PE (preferable), or bring in tape to cover them up; we do not have a supply of tape to do this in school. Children with long hair **must** have it all tied back for PE as well. In upper key stage 2, the boys and girls will change separately in the classroom/cloakroom.

Home-School Diaries

The children must bring their diary in every day to show they have read. Please be honest about how much your child is reading so that we can keep track of it in school. We will give the children some bits and pieces to stick into their diaries at the beginning of the year i.e. spelling cards, usernames and passwords for different websites etc.

Water/Snack

We would also like to remind you that every child should have a named bottle of **water** in school, as well as their lunchtime drink. This will ensure that your child has access to water throughout the day. If you send in a snack for break time, please ensure that it is a **healthy** one.

House badges

Please encourage your child to wear their house badges on Wednesdays (and every other day if they would like) to show they are part of the 'team'. House badges are counted on a Wednesday and the number in each house goes towards house points at the end of the week.

Communication

If you ever have any questions, concerns or perhaps some celebrations, send a dojo message or leave a message in your child's home-school diary; we are keen to help in any way we can. Please note, if the message is urgent and you need to talk to me in the morning, please inform the office as I cannot guarantee that I will be able to check Dojo messages throughout the school day and often having small teaching groups first thing in the morning.

Thank you for your support.

Kind Regards,
Miss Green