



Lympne Church of England Primary School Sycamore Class Newsletter Terms 1 and 2 2026

4th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

A very warm welcome to Sycamore Class, I hope you have all had a great summer break. I am very excited to be teaching your children and can't wait for all the learning we will get up to! The children have settled into year 4 beautifully and have already shown me what an amazing class they are. Below is a summary of what we are aiming to achieve by the end of term 1 and 2.

English

In term 1, we will be focusing on descriptive and narrative writing using the book *How to Train Your Dragon* as inspiration for our learning. As part of this work, the children will design their own dragons, carefully considering their appearance, movements and special characteristics. We will also be developing our non-chronological report writing skills by creating fact files all about dragons.

In term 2, we will be studying *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens. Through this engaging text, the children will explore playscripts and take part in role-play activities to bring the story and characters to life.

We will continue to develop our descriptive writing skills, focusing on creating detailed character and setting descriptions.

In addition, we will be exploring poetry based on the theme of winter. The children will read and analyse a range of winter-themed poems and use rich vocabulary, imagery and figurative language to write their own poems inspired by the season.

We will continue to develop spelling, punctuation and grammar which underpins much of the learning in English. We will also focus on preposition, direct speech, paragraphs and fronted adverbials.

Maths

During term 1, we will support the children to gain a strong and secure knowledge of place value, addition and subtraction. In place value, we will be exploring numbers up to 10,000, focusing on representation, rounding, partitioning, comparing and ordering. In addition and subtraction, the children will be building on their strategies, encouraging the children to efficiently add and subtract two 4-digit numbers by the end of the term.

In term 2, we will support the children to develop a strong and secure understanding of area, multiplication and division. Children will be focusing on finding the area of shapes and knowing their multiplication and division facts for the 3, 6, 7, 9, 11 and 12 times tables.

We will use the concrete, pictorial, abstract method - a highly effective approach to teaching that develops a deep and sustainable understanding of maths in pupils.

Please see our [Calculations Policy](#) for more information about the methods we will be teaching this year.

Curriculum Overview

	Term 1	Term 2
Science	Animals: digestion and food	Energy: electricity and circuits
RE	What do Christians learn from the Creation story?	What is the Trinity? <i>DIGGING DEEPER</i>
PSHE / RSE	Being Me in my world	Celebrating Difference
Computing	Online safety	
PE	Rounders/ Kwik cricket	Circuits
Art / DT	Adapting a biscuit	Drawing- exploring tone, texture and proportion
History / Geography	Rivers	How have children lives changed?
Music	Rivers	Haiku, music and performance

PE Days

Please refer to the school website for our PE days. They will currently be on Tuesday morning and Thursday afternoons.

Home Learning

Home learning will be sent home every Friday (beginning 11th September) and to be returned by the following Wednesday for marking please. An overview of the term's spellings, including the rules and patterns, will be presented in the children's home learning books so you can see what the children will be working on in our spelling sessions within school.

In addition, I am always so pleased with any reading that you do at home with your child. This could be reading with your child, reading to your child or simply discussing a book or piece of text together. I encourage all children to continue to read a variety of fiction and non-fiction at home. We are currently setting up a new reading scheme, Accelerated Reader, and you will receive more information on this separately. The children will receive their levels and bring their reading book home by Friday 11th September.

Please continue to read daily and practise Spelling Shed / TT Rockstars.

During the summer term of Year 4 children will complete a 'Multiplication Check' which is a statutory requirement. Children are tested on the quick recall of their times tables up to 12x12.

More information will be given out nearer the time however it is super helpful if children are working on their times tables throughout the year.

Diary Dates

All diary dates, including those for Forest School, can be found on the [school website calendar](#). Important dates coming up for our class are:

Sycamore class worship Friday 5th February; Whole school open lesson PE/Sports Wednesday 20th May; World book day 4th March 2027; Internet Safety Day 9th Feb 2027 and World Maths Day 24th March 2027; Class open lesson Tuesday 22nd June

If you have any queries, please feel free to get in touch and thank you for your ongoing support.

Kind regards

Miss McCrudden
Class teacher