



# Curriculum Information

## Sycamore, Rowan and Larch November - December 2022



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[www.swansfieldpark.northumberland.sch.uk](http://www.swansfieldpark.northumberland.sch.uk)

### Our topic for this half term is: *To Infinity and Beyond*

#### This includes:

- Science**
- Earth and Space
  - Famous Scientists

Children will consider a selection of evidence that proves the Earth, Sun and Moon are all spherical before then making comparisons between the varying sizes using everyday objects and progressing to make informed estimations about the distances between them. Children will consider analogies which help explain why we perceive the Sun to be moving across the sky, whilst learning that it is the Earth rotating which creates this effect. They will then draw diagrams and make models to show what they have learned before progressing to learn about the phases of the Moon and what a lunar month is as well as studying data showing sunrise and sunset times.

Children will investigate Isaac Newton and Galileo Galilei and their contribution to science. They will then move onto explaining their work, especially in developing the theory of gravity. After gaining knowledge, children will progress to investigating how these scientists impact on science today.

#### **Geography - Ariel Maps from Space**

Children will build their maps skills by closely investigating images looking at man-made and natural features. Working with a partner they will deepen their understanding by discussing physical geographic features before sharing their finding with their peers. Moving on, the children will use web based satellite images to help locate both familiar and unfamiliar locations as well as look for similarities between physical features on the images and web based satellite images.

#### **Computing - A Journey Through Space**

To begin, children will design and program a character game on paper, ready to convert into a Scratch algorithm. Children will then design a space-themed character and backdrop for their game on Scratch. Following that, they will add features or effects to enhance their game. Children will then create an animated game with a specific goal and program a costume change. Finally, the children will add point scoring and levels to the game code.

#### **Design Technology - Felt Phone Cases**

Children will begin by evaluating a set of phone cases against a given design criteria, assessing both the functional and aesthetic appeal of the products. They will then progress to generate, develop, model and communicate their own design ideas through discussion, annotated sketches, cross-sectional diagrams and the making of prototypes. Children will begin the making process by selecting and using a wide range of materials and components, including textiles, selecting decorative techniques and fastenings for their felt phone cases. Their finished products will then be evaluated against the original design criteria.

We will also be celebrating World Science Day and Anti-Bullying Week as well as spending the day at the Great North Museum in Newcastle. Further details to follow.

#### **English:**

Recounts, Narrative and Poetry – Cosmic: It's One Giant Leap for Boy-Kind!

#### **Mathematics:**

Year 5: Multiplication, Division and Fractions

Year 6: Fractions and Converting Units



### **Other subjects:**

**R.E** Christianity: Significance of Christmas Celebrations **French** Christmas: L'arbre de Noel

**P.E.** NUF Football, Swimming and Multi-Skills

**Parliament Work** Making Laws

**PHRSE** Celebrating Differences

**Music** Recorder Tuition & Classroom Jazz (2)

### **Homework & Spellings:**

**Weekly Tasks:** Every Monday, your child will continue to be set online homework tasks within their Google Classroom account. These will be outlined within the main page of Google Classroom and used to either prepare children for a new topic or consolidate new knowledge, skills and understanding. All children will have six days in which to complete and submit their homework. If your child has any difficulties accessing their homework, please contact their class teacher and alternative arrangements can be discussed.

**Spellings:** Spellings will continue to be set each Monday on [www.spellingframe.co.uk](http://www.spellingframe.co.uk) and made live for six days. It is important that your child routinely practises their spellings as well as completes two online tests each week.

**Punctuation and Grammar:** As part of your child's weekly homework, they may sometimes be set a quiz on [www.SPAG.com](http://www.SPAG.com). As with all homework tasks, the online quiz will be set on a Monday and made live for six days.

**Mental Maths:** Times Tables Rockstars and Sumdog should continue to be used by your child on a weekly basis to develop and secure their times tables skills. Mental maths skills will be tested on a weekly basis.

**Reading:** Your child should continue to access their weekly reading homework online through Reading Plus [www.readingplus.com](http://www.readingplus.com). They will need to read online for a minimum of 30 minutes each week, selecting texts that they are interested in and answering a range of comprehension questions in order to demonstrate their understanding.

Our UKS2 children will also continue to have Guided Reading sessions in school as well as visit the school library each week. Your child also has access to our fabulous eLibrary platform where they can access a wide range of audio books and online texts: [swansfield.eplatform.co](http://swansfield.eplatform.co)

**PE Kits:** Our UKS2 children will continue to participate in a range of PE sessions this half term. They will need to come to school dressed in their school PE kit on their allocated days and have their swim wear when participating in curriculum swim lessons at Willowburn. Please see PE schedule letter sent out last half term for dates and PE focus for each class and note that earrings should not be worn in school.

**Additional items in school:** Please ensure that your child continues to bring a clean, named water bottle to school each day. As detailed in the UKS2 disclaimer form prior to the summer, mobile phones should only come in to school under exceptional circumstances. Staff do not collect phones in or store them during the school day, instead children will have to turn them off and leave them in their bags in the corridor. School will take no responsibility for loss or damage to mobile phones in school.

Although mobile phones are not used during the school day, please could we ask that children's use of social media is carefully monitored by all parents. If you would like further guidance regarding age restrictions or parental controls, we are more than happy to provide you with this information, please get in touch with your child's class teacher.

**Wellies and outdoor shoes:** Please ensure that your child has a pair of named wellies or outdoor shoes available in school at all times for playtime as well as outdoor learning activities.

### ***And finally, from the Upper Key Stage 2 team...***

Thank you for your ongoing support and positive comments over the last half term, they really are appreciated. If you have any further queries or questions, please just get in touch, we are always here to help.

Mrs Murdy

Miss Back

Mrs Chambers