Life Skills in Sycamore Class: Autumn 1, 2026

This half term, Sycamore Class have enjoyed a variety of Life Skills experiences designed to help them develop valuable life skills, build independence and strengthen their understanding of what it means to be a positive member of both the school and wider community. Through practical tasks, teamwork and opportunities to support others, the children have demonstrated resilience, friendship, tolerance and responsibility throughout their learning.

A key focus has been online safety. As part of our computing lessons, Sycamore Class explored how we can make safe and sensible decisions online. The children investigated how information found on the internet is not always accurate or trustworthy. They learned how to question online content, look for clues that may suggest information has been altered or misleading, and consider whether a source is reliable before accepting it as fact. Through discussion and practical activities, the children developed their critical thinking skills and gained a greater understanding of the importance of checking information carefully before sharing it with others. These lessons encouraged pupils to become thoughtful, responsible and informed users of technology.

The children also took part in Bikeability training, developing the knowledge and skills needed to cycle safely on the roads. They learned how to assess potential hazards, communicate effectively with other road users and make safe decisions whilst riding. This experience provided a wonderful opportunity for the children to build both confidence and independence.

A fortnightly highlight is Love a Book. Y6 have enjoyed sharing stories with their Acorns buddies and helping to foster a love of reading. Every fortnight, they have also joined them for lunch, modelling positive table manners and encouraging good conversation. These experiences have allowed the children to demonstrate patience, kindness and leadership while helping Reception pupils settle confidently into school life.

The children have also made a significant contribution to the ongoing revamp of our school library. They have worked hard to sort, organise and categorise books and they demonstrated excellent teamwork, organisation and perseverance.

Our personal development work has focused on building positive relationships and developing emotional awareness. The children considered how to respond when faced with challenges, how to show resilience when things do not go to plan and how to accept feedback positively. They also discussed the importance of recognising when others need time and space, demonstrating empathy and respect for the feelings of others. Through these conversations, the children have developed a greater understanding of how to advocate for themselves appropriately and seek support when they feel something is unfair.

We were particularly proud of a small group of pupils who independently organised a fundraiser for the Air Ambulance. Their enthusiasm, courage and sense of social responsibility were evident throughout. By identifying a worthwhile cause and acting to support it, the children demonstrated impressive advocacy, teamwork and community spirit.