



Squirrel Class Newsletter

Autumn Term 2 2024

Dear parents/carers,

I hope you had an enjoyable half term break. The children have had an excellent first half term. They have adjusted well to the new routines and expectations in the classroom. We are looking forward to another busy half term and all the exciting Christmas events planned in the final weeks of the term.

Learning in Autumn Term 2

This half term the curriculum will focus on learning about the weather in the United Kingdom and the different seasons. In **English** we will be spending the first week exploring and writing our own firework night poems. We will then look at the book *Seasons* by Hannah Pang and *Grandma Bird* by Benji Davies to inspire the children to write their own non-fiction texts. In **Maths** the children will continue to develop their confidence with number and develop an understanding of place value looking at numbers up to 100. Later in the term, the children will progress and learn about geometry. A key focus this half term will be on the weather in the UK and around the world. In **Science** we will be looking at weather forecasts and how weather is measured. While in **Geography**, the children will learn about the different types of weather in the United Kingdom. They will build on their knowledge of the four seasons, learn about hot and cold areas of the world and the impact of different weather types. In **Design and Technology**, the children will be learning about structures and will be creating their own windmills. In **RE**, the children will focus on Judaism and will discover why 'Mitzvahs' are important to Jewish people. In **PE** this half term, the children will develop their gymnastic skills and will develop their knowledge of invasion games. While in **PSHE**, the children will learn about road safety and why it is important to pay attention near a road. In **Music**, Squirrels and Rabbits will come together to rehearse for their performance of the nativity. In **Computing**, the children will explore digital photography.



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Reading and Homework

Please listen to your child read on a daily basis as it will help them progress. Your child will bring a reading book and their reading record home every day and this needs to be returned to school daily. After hearing your child read, date the entry, make a comment and initial. The reading challenge will continue this term to inspire the children to develop a love of reading and get them into the habit of reading daily.

Your child has been given a schedule for their times tables tests in their homework book. We will have a tables test every Wednesday. Your child will be tested on the same times tables for two weeks running. The children will be given a template and not expected to write the number sentences. Results will be sent home in the times tables book. Please ensure these are returned the following day.

We have assessed your child's spelling ability and will continue to provide them with an appropriate spelling list on a weekly basis. This will be found in their reading record. Spelling tests will be every Thursday. Spelling books will be sent home so you can see how your child has done. Please ensure these are returned the following day.

Each week, homework will be sent home on a Friday afternoon and will need to be returned completed on Tuesday to ensure it can be marked.

PE kits

PE will be on Mondays and Tuesday this term. Children will continue to come into school in their PE kits on their PE days, rather than changing at school.

Please remember to keep up to date with the school website to see what the children have been learning and find out about whole school updates. The children have made an excellent start to the term, I am looking forward to working with the class and hope they continue to grow and flourish in Squirrel Class.

Mr Rolfe