



Squirrel Class Newsletter

Autumn Term 1 2024

Dear parents/carers,

It has been brilliant to welcome the children back to school at the beginning of the autumn term. The children have settled back into the routine of the school day, they have been so enthusiastic and engaged, and even though we have not been back long, there has been so much learning going on in the classroom!

Learning in Autumn Term 1

This half-term is filled with some exciting and interesting topics. In English we will be basing our writing on the book Grandad's Island and the children will be writing their own adventure stories based on this. In our History lessons we will be learning about Barningham Primary School and how the school has changed in the last 100 years. In Maths the children will develop their confidence with number and develop an understanding of place value. Furthermore, they will develop secure methods to calculate with addition and subtraction. In Science the children will be learning about everyday materials and how scientists have helped us understand the properties of materials. In RE, the children will focus on Christianity and will discover how belonging to God and the church family is important to Christians. In Computing, the children will explore information technology around them. In their Art lessons, the children, will look at artists who create 3D sculptures and will make their own out of paper with different techniques. In PE this half-term, the children will develop their fundamental skills and will develop their knowledge of ball games. While in PSHE the children will focus on the importance of having good communication skills.

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.

Over the next few weeks, once the children have had the chance to settle back into the school routine, we will begin to send home times tables, spellings and homework.

Your child will be given a schedule for their times tables tests in their reading record. We will have a tables test every Wednesday. Your child will be tested on the same times tables for two weeks running. The first week children will be tested in order e.g. $1 \times 2 = _$, $2 \times 2 = _$, $3 \times 2 = _$. The second week children will be tested



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in a random order e.g. $1 \times 2 = \underline{\quad}$, $6 \times 2 = \underline{\quad}$, $12 \times 2 = \underline{\quad}$. 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 will assess your child's spelling ability and will 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