



Squirrel Class Newsletter

Spring Term 1 – 2024/2025

Dear parents/carers,

Happy New Year. I hope you had a fantastic Christmas break and a well-deserved rest from the normal school routine. Thank you for the kind and generous Christmas cards, gifts and wishes we received at the end of last term, we are very grateful. It has been lovely to welcome the children to school at the beginning of the spring term. We have had an excellent first few days back, the children seem refreshed and have been so enthusiastic about the learning in the classroom.

Learning in the Spring Term

This term, in **English** we will be starting with writing a story based on the Michael Morpurgo book, Wombat Goes Walkabout. We will then use the rest of our time this half term studying poetry looking at the text Strange by Valerie Bloom. In **Mathematics**, the children will develop their knowledge of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. In **Science** we will be looking at our five senses and why we have them. In **History**, the children will learn about what Rosa Parks did to change the world. In **RE** the children will be exploring Christianity and learning about the signs and symbols linked to Jesus' death and resurrection. In **PE** this half term, the children will develop their dance skills and will develop their knowledge of target games. While in **PSHE**, the children will learn about how to stay safe outdoor. In **Music**, the children will learn how pitch and tempo can be changed to tell a narrative. In **Computing**, the children will explore algorithms. Finally, this term we will be studying **Art** where the children will work with clay to create sculptures.

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



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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. There will also be a homework project for children to work on each half term which will be printed and sent home with children.

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