



SQUIRRELS' NEWSLETTER TERM 5 2023-24

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a great Easter break and are ready for Term 5. It is so lovely to have more hours of daylight and we can all enjoy being outdoors more again.

It has been wonderful to see so many of the children grow in confidence and ability this year so far and I know I can rely on them to work hard and make even more progress before the end of the year.

I will continue to teach the whole class on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Mrs Blunt will continue to teach the class on a Thursday and Friday. Mrs Masters will be supporting the class every day. Mrs Jones will also be supporting the class on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

If you do have any questions, comments or concerns then please do not hesitate to come and speak to me either before school or at the end of the day. You can also email me at jo.godfrey@bad.kent.sch.uk

We are all looking forward to a great new term.

Mrs Cottenden, Mrs Blunt, Mrs Masters and Mrs Jones

As a whole school, we are keen for the children to develop their independence. In Year 3, we are keen for the children to

- *Stick in their own spellings for home learning
- *Bring their reading record book into school every day
- *Go to the toilet during break times and lunch times

We thank you for your help and support with this.

Learning Overview

English - With Mrs Cottenden, we will be looking at both fiction and non-fiction books about wolves. We will have an opportunity to write our own reports about wolves. With Mrs Blunt, the class will be looking at the wonderful story of 'Beowulf' and writing their own stories about defeating monsters.

Maths - We will be revisiting fractions this term. This will build upon what we have already learned so far in Year 3. With Mrs Blunt, the class will continue to look at measures. They will be looking at units of measurement associated with length, mass and capacity. They will also revisit time.

Science - This term the areas of Science we will be looking at include the Moon, how soil is formed, the three states of matter, simple electrical circuits, the skeleton, pollination and how muscles work.

R.E - This investigation enables pupils to learn in depth from different religious and spiritual ways of life about prayer: the practice, symbols, words and significance of prayer are studied alongside some key beliefs about prayer, so that pupils can develop thoughtful ideas and viewpoints of their own about prayer.

P.E - This term the children will have PE on a **Tuesday** and **Friday**. Both sessions will aim to develop their understanding of different sports and the skills required to improve (e.g. hand-eye coordination, spatial awareness, agility and fitness). We will be enjoying cricket on a Tuesday and dance on a Friday. *Please ensure that your child has the appropriate kit for these sessions especially as the weather remains cooler.*

History/Geography - Following on from the Romans in term 2 and 3, we are going to be looking at Britain's settlements by Anglo Saxons. We will be discussing the terms 'invaders' and 'settlers' and understand that many different people have settled in Britain to help shape the nation.

DT- We will be looking at lunch box snacks, which snacks are healthy and unhealthy and eventually making/cooking our own 'healthy' snack. This links with our science topic as there will be plenty of discussion about diet and the benefits of different nutrients on our bodies.

PSHE - This term we will be focusing on 'Why do we need to eat a healthy diet and look after our teeth?' Within this unit we will be exploring healthy food choices and how to brush our teeth effectively.

Music - This term we will continue to learn to play a musical instrument. We will be learning to play the ocarina. The children have already made so much progress and we look forward to learning some new songs.

French- 'Les quatre amis' (the four friends) is this term's topic! We will be learning how to describe our family members and our friends, using lots of practical activities, dialogue and worksheets to support our learning.

Computing- We are starting the term with our e-safety unit which is all about showing respect online. Pupils will explore the similarities and differences between in-person and online communications, and then learn how to write clear and respectful messages. We will then be moving onto making animations. We will use the programme Zu3D to create our own animations, like the ones we see on our TV screens!



Home Learning

Spellings

Each week the children will be given spellings on a **Thursday** that need to be practised and learnt for a test the following **Tuesday**. Spellings that the children learn will be based upon learning in class as well as from the Y3 and Y4 spelling expectations. They are asked to practise each word a number of times using a variety of spelling techniques they have been taught in class. This makes up a significant part of their home learning and I do expect that the children make time to practise and learn their spellings each week.

Times Table Tasks

Alongside spellings, the children will be set an additional, shorter task that will be related to learning their multiplication tables and corresponding division facts. These will be based on each pupil's individual need following work in school on multiplication and division facts and through a website/ app called 'MathShed'. The children have log-ins for this in their reading record book. Once they have completed the set assignment, they are then able to practise other times tables. In Year Three, we review the 2, 5 and 10 times table, then begin learning the 3, 4, 6, 8 and 11 times tables. It can make a real difference to their speed and accuracy of recall of number facts so please encourage your child to complete their weekly tasks.

Reading

Regular reading should still be taking place at home. The children can read a combination of their school reading books as well as their own books from home, the class book corner or the library. Please encourage daily reading of 15 minutes, which should be recorded in their home school record book. We will continue to change reading books on a **Monday** and a **Friday** so please make sure that their books and reading record books are in school, particularly on these days. We will change books on other days if necessary.

Additional (optional) Learning

These tasks are all linked to our History topic on Invaders and Settlers. They are optional and do not need to be completed but will broaden their understanding of the topic.

- Compare some of the differences through pictures as to how the rich and poor Anglo Saxons dressed
- Construct a model of something that links to the Anglo Saxons. This can be presented in any way
- Demonstrate through pictures how Anglo Saxons houses differed from our own
- Give reasons why the Anglo Saxons invaded Britain
- Design an illuminated letter that were used in Christian scripture by the monks
- Research the foods that Anglo Saxons ate
- Listen to any instruments that the Anglo Saxons played. What were they and what did they sound like?
- Create a message written in runes
- Create your own monster like the one Beowulf battled. Draw a picture and write a description of it



Year 3 Term 5 Weekly Spelling Lists

Term 5 Week 1 Spellings - Week beginning 15.4.24

Group 2 - quick, quickly, queen, quite, quiet, quietly, quest, king, know, now

Group 3 - quarter, queue, question, quest, quality, quiver, pressure, probably, promise, purpose

Term 5 Week 2 Spellings - Week beginning 22.4.24

Group 2 - last, laugh, let, let's, liked, live, lived, long, looking, looks

Group 3 - prickly, prickly, fiddle, fiddly, gentle, gently, giggle, giggly, idle, idly

Term 5 Week 3 Spellings - Week beginning 29.4.24

Group 2 - magic, man, many, may, miss, more, morning, most, mother, mouse

Group 3 - recent, regular, reign, remember, sentence, separate, special, straight, strange, strength

Term 5 Week 4 Spellings - Week beginning 6.5.24

Group 2 - much, must, narrator, need, never, new, next, night, one, only

Group 3 - basically, frantically, dramatically, magically, tragically, comically, actually, accidentally, occasionally, eventually

Term 5 Week 5 Spellings - Week beginning 13.5.24

Group 2 - or, other, our, hour, over, park, place, plants, play, please

Group 3 - instruct, structure, construction, instruction, instructor, unit, union, united, universe, university

Term 5 Week 6 Spellings - Week beginning 20.5.24

Group 2 - Pulled, rabbit, ran, really, red, right, river, room, round, run

Group 3 - Press, suppress, express, compress, impress, prevent, invent, venture, adventure, eventful