



Squirrels Class Termly Newsletter

Autumn Term 1 and 2



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have all had a lovely summer! I am looking forward to welcoming back the Year 5s and 6s and to working with you all in the upcoming year. We have an exciting term ahead of us, with our learning based around the topic of 'Space Adventure'. Please do not hesitate to speak to myself or Mrs Foreman at any point in the year if you have questions about an aspect of your child's learning - we are always happy to discuss this with you.

Best wishes, Miss Hurdle

English

Our English lessons for term 1 will be based around the text 'Cosmic' by Frank Cottrell Boyce. The children will be producing quality writing linked to the text, including a first-person narrative about a space adventure and fact file about an unknown alien species.



In term 2, our English learning will be based around the text 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty as we move on to learn about the Victorians.

Maths

We will begin the term with a focus on place value. This will involve recognising numbers up to 10 million, rounding numbers, comparing and ordering numbers, counting in powers of 10 and dealing with negative numbers. After this, we will move on to learn about the four operations including adding and subtracting numbers with more than 4 digits and multiplying and dividing using the long methods. We will also be learning about multiples, factors, prime, square and cube numbers. In term 2 of maths, we will begin our learning of fractions.



Science

This term in science we will be learning about Earth and space. To summarise, the children will:

- describe the movement of the Earth, and other planets, relative to the Sun in the solar system
- describe the movement of the Moon relative to the Earth
- describe the Sun, Earth and Moon as approximately spherical bodies
- use the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky.

The children will be learning about key scientists including Professor Brian Cox and Galileo Galilei and will have the opportunity to develop a range of scientific skills within every science lesson.

In term 2, we will begin learning about properties of materials.



Religious Education

In term 1, our Religious Education lessons are linked to the 'God' element of the Bible timeline. Our work will link to the key question, 'What does it mean if God is holy and loving?' In term 2, our core question will be, 'Was Jesus the Messiah?' as children learn about Incarnation.



PE

This term, the children will be developing their cognitive skills within PE. In particular, we will be focusing on coordination and agility. The children will be taking part in activities that will progress their ball skills as well as their reactions and responses. In term 2, the children will go on to develop balancing skills through floor work.



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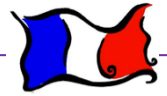
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Computing

During the autumn term, the children will be using and developing their IT skills to create topic-based presentations. This will include making decisions about useful websites, collecting and sharing information and evaluating content according to its impact on a target audience. In term 2, the children will learn about search engines and the internet. There will also be regular discussions and lessons based around the importance of staying safe online.

French



Our theme in French this term is 'Getting to know you!' The children will be listening to and joining in with discussions, using descriptive language both orally and in writing and use a range of songs and rhymes to explore patterns and sounds within the French language. We will also focus on applying various grammar rules throughout and develop pronunciation and intonation in our speech.

Art and Design

The children will be developing skills in 3D origami. They will begin by researching key artists Akira Yoshizawa and Kade Chan and then apply their learning to create their own pieces.



Music

Music this term will be based around our topic of 'Space'. This will have a musical focus on listening. In term 2, our music sessions will link with the theme of 'Keeping Healthy'. This will have a musical focus on beat.



Design Technology

To with our topic of 'Space Adventure' the children will be learning about foods consumed in space. They will then apply their learning to plan and produce their own nutritious meal suitable for an astronaut. In term 2, the children's DT lessons will link with the topic of the Victorians. They will be creating Punch and Judy style puppets using a range of complex techniques.

Forest School

Throughout the autumn term, we will be carrying out a range of forest school activities, including:

- To plan, make and create a decoration.
- To use natural shapes and structures to inspire my artwork.
- To name and identify some trees in our grounds by using a simple ID guide.
- To recognise pollution indicators in different habitats.
- To research and test different ways to find north.

PSHE

Throughout term 1 and 2, we will be focusing on the theme of health and wellbeing. The children will consider: 'How can we keep healthy as we grow?' These lessons will include discussions about physical and mental health and will encourage children to consider how to maintain a healthy lifestyle.



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Information and Reminders

Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reading records to be handed in. The children need to read five times a week (for at least 20 minutes) and this needs to be accurately logged in their reading records. Please sign each entry to show that your child has read. - Reading records handed out. - Spellings are handed out for a test on Friday.
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - English and maths homework is handed out to be handed in the following week. As stated in the homework policy, homework for Squirrels class children should take a maximum of between 2 and 3 hours each week. - Mrs Foreman teaches the class in the afternoon.
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spelling test. - Maths arithmetic test. - PE lessons will take place on Friday this term.

Autumn Term 1 Spelling Overview

Week 1 Words with endings that sound like /shuhs/ spelt with -cious	Week 2 Words with endings that sound like /shuhs/ spelt with -tious or -ious	Week 3 Words with the short vowel sound /i/ spelt with y	Week 4 Words with the long vowel sound /i/ spelt with y	Week 5 Homophones & near homophones	Week 6 Homophones & near homophones	Week 7 Review Week
vicious	ambitious	symbol	apply	past	farther	Within this assess & review week, use the provided Year 5 Autumn Term 1 Dictation Passages and the Spot the Mistake with Mr Whoops self- correction activities to assess pupil's progress against the objectives that have been covered within this half-term.
gracious	cautious	mystery	supply	passed	father	
spacious	fictitious	lyrics	identify	proceed	guessed	
malicious	infectious	oxygen	occupy	precede	guest	
precious	nutritious	symptom	multiply	aisle	heard	
conscious	contentious	physical	rhyme	isle	herd	
delicious	superstitious	system	cycle	aloud	led	
suspicious	pretentious	typical	python	allowed	lead	
atrocious	anxious	crystal	hygiene	affect	mourning	
ferocious	obnoxious	rhythm	hyphen	effect	morning	