



Squirrels Class Termly Newsletter

Spring Term 3 and 4

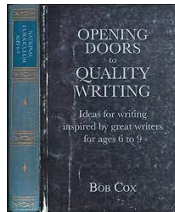
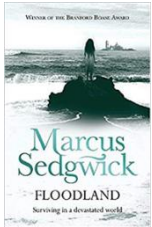


Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have all had a wonderful Christmas and a happy new year. Thank you very much for your kind Christmas wishes, cards and presents - we appreciate them all very much! We have another exciting term ahead of us, with our learning based around the topic of 'Raging Rivers'. As always, please do not hesitate to speak to myself or Mrs Foreman at any point if you have questions about an aspect of your child's learning - we are always happy to discuss this with you.

English

Our English lessons for Term 3 will be based around the text 'Floodland' by Marcus Sedgwick. The children will be producing quality writing linked to the text, including a newspaper report and persuasive leaflet.



In Term 4, our English learning will be based around a range of classic texts including Alice in Wonderland.

Maths

In Term 3, we will be consolidating and adding to our knowledge of fractions, decimals and percentages (FDP). This will involve learning to use the four operations in different contexts as well as converting between each. The children will solve a range of problems using FDP and continue to develop their reasoning skills. In Term 4, we will move on to learn about: converting units, area, perimeter, volume, ratio and statistics. Meanwhile, Year 6 will move on to their unit of algebra.



Science

This term in science we will be learning about living things and their habitats. To summarise, the children will:

- describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird
- describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals

The children will be learning about key scientists including Jane Goodall and will have the opportunity to develop a range of scientific skills within every science lesson.

In Term 4, we will begin learning about animals including humans: changes to old age.



Religious Education

In Term 3, our Religious Education lessons are linked to the 'People of God' element of the Bible timeline. Our work will link to the key question, 'How can following God bring freedom and justice?' In Term 4, our core question will be, 'What did Jesus do to save human beings?' as children learn about Salvation.

PE

This term, the children will be developing their social skills within PE. In particular, we will be focusing on dynamic balance and counterbalances. The children will be taking part in activities that will progress their balance as well as encourage them to negotiate and collaborate as a team. In Term 2, the children will go on to develop physical skills such as jumping and landing.





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Computing

During the spring term, the children will be using and developing their programming skills to create flowcharts. This will involve understanding the key components of a flowchart, identifying input and output and recognizing how to debug algorithms. In Term 4, the children will become graphic designers, creating their own algorithms. There will also be regular discussions and lessons based around the importance of staying safe online.



Art and Design

The children will be developing skills in block printing. They will begin by researching the key artist Katsushika Hokusai and then apply their learning to create their own printed version of The Great Wave.



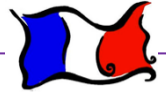
Design Technology

In Term 3, the children will continue to create and evaluate their Punch and Judy style puppets.

PSHE

Throughout Term 3 and 4, we will be focusing on the theme of living in the wider world. The children will consider: 'How can the media influence people?' These lessons will include discussions about the media, the internet and identifying reliable sources of information. This will link very closely with our internet safety work in computing.

French



Our theme in French this term is 'That's Tasty!' as our conversations will be based around the context of food. The children will engage in conversations, read carefully to show an understanding of words and phrases, write phrases from memory and adapt these to express their own ideas. We will also focus on applying various grammar rules throughout and develop pronunciation.

Music

Music this term will be based around the topic of 'Life Cycles'. This will have a musical focus on structure. In Term 4, our music sessions will link with the theme of 'Growth'. This will have a musical focus on performance.



Forest School

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

- Using the 8 points of a compass.
- Developing navigational skills.
- Setting, reading and following a bearing.
- Combining map reading and compass skills.
- Orienteering.
- Interpreting maps.
- Navigating using natural indicators.
- Following and making trails.
- Explaining what humans need to survive.
- Identifying safe wild food.
- Understanding the rules for safe foraging.
- Collecting, storing and purifying water.



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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.
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- PE lessons will take place on Thursday this term. However, please be aware that this can change. Updates will be written in Squirrels weekly newsletter.
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Spelling test.- Maths arithmetic test.

Spring Term 3 Spelling Overview

Week 1 Creating nouns using -ity suffix	Week 2 Creating nouns using -ness suffix	Week 3 Creating nouns using -ship suffix	Week 4 Homophones & Near Homophones	Week 5 Homophones & Near Homophones	Week 6 Homophones & Near Homophones
community	happiness	membership	stationary	alter	principal
curiosity	hardness	ownership	stationery	altar	principle
ability	madness	partnership	steal	ascent	profit
visibility	nastiness	dictatorship	steel	assent	prophet
captivity	silliness	championship	wary	bridal	descent
activity	tidiness	craftsmanship	weary	bridle	dissent
eternity	childishness	fellowship	who's	cereal	desert
flexibility	willingness	apprenticeship	whose	serial	dessert
possibility	carelessness	citizenship	fate	compliment	draft
sensitivity	foolishness	sponsorship	fete	complement	draught