



# Squirrels Class Termly Newsletter

## Autumn Term 1 and 2



Dear Parents and Carers,

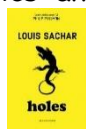
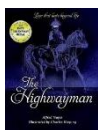
Welcome back! We hope that you have all had a lovely summer. We are looking forward to welcoming back the Year 5s and 6s and to working with you all in the upcoming year. Squirrels Class have an exciting term ahead, with our learning based around the topic 'Crime and Punishment'. We can't wait to see the great projects you have completed over the summer linked to our learning. Please do not hesitate to speak to myself or Mr Banks 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 focused on the text 'Holes' and 'The Highwayman' as we delve into the concept of crime and punishment in popular literature. The children will be producing quality writing outcomes linked to each text, including a first person narrative in the role of Bess and a discussion about the ethics and impact of Camp Green Lake.



In term 2, our learning will be based around the texts Dracula and Room 13.



### 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 working 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 statistics, which will subsequently support our learning in science. In term 2 of maths, we will go on to cover fractions.

### Science

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

- explain that unsupported objects fall towards the Earth because of the force of gravity acting between the Earth and the falling object
- identify the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction, that act between moving surfaces
- recognise that some mechanisms, including levers, pulleys and gears, allow a smaller force to have a greater effect.

The children will be learning about the key scientists Archimedes and Sir Isaac Newton and will have the opportunity to develop a range of scientific skills within every science lesson.

### Religious Education

Our Religious Education lessons will be linked to the 'Creation' element of the Bible timeline. We will discuss the key question, 'Creation or science: conflicting or complimentary?'. Children will compare scientific accounts of evolution to Christian interpretations of Genesis.

In term 2, our core question will be, 'What would Jesus do?' as children learn about the Gospels.



### History

In history, we will explore how crime and punishment has changed over time in Britain. Children will find out what was seen as a crime over time and the different punishments that were handed out to criminals. The children will learn about the development of the police force from the Victorian period to today.



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### Computing



In the Autumn terms, we will be focusing on programming. To begin with, the children will learn about physical computing using Crumble programming devices. They will learn how to connect and program the Crumble to control components by writing algorithms. To consolidate their learning, we will make a working model of a fairground carousel. In Term 2, children will construct programs using Scratch. They will learn to write programs that ask questions and apply this by making an online quiz. There will also be frequent discussions and lessons based around the importance of staying safe online.

### Geography



In Term 2, we will learn about Global Warming and looking after our planet. Our key question will be: What can our school do to reduce its plastic waste? The children will create and implement a plan to reduce the plastic waste used in school and then evaluate its value.

### Music



Music this term will be based around learning Sea Shanties. Within this unit, the children will develop their understanding of beat, rhythm, bass and notation. In Term 2, the children will learn about the impact of instruments and how these can create structure and texture within music. They will also write their own lyrics and create their own tune for a hook in a song.

### Art and Design



This term, we will learn about the typical mistakes made when sketching portraits and how to amend these. Once the children have developed their skills in drawing key facial features, ensuring sketches are in proportion and realistic, the children will be creating their own self-portraits.

### French



This term, the children will recap and consolidate their learning from Key Stage 2 so far. Throughout this term, the children will further develop their skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening in French. They will do so in the context of telling the time.

### PE



This term, the children will be developing their personal skills within PE. 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. Throughout term 1, children will have the opportunity to take part in Outdoor Adventurous Activities including orienteering. Our trip to Kingswood will coincide with this.

### PSHE

This term, 'Health and Wellbeing' is our topic within PSHE. The children will be considering the question, 'What makes up a person's identity?' We will be discussing: what identity is, what our personal attributes and qualities are and how these contribute to our identity, how people are similar and different, the concept of individuality and how stereotypes can influence our view of others. In Term 2, we will be discussing the key question: 'What decisions can people make with money?'



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### Information and Reminders

Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Reading records to be handed in. The children need to read <b>five times a week</b> (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.</li><li>➤ Reading records handed out.</li><li>➤ Little Wandle books should be handed in.</li></ul>
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Mr Banks teaches the class in the afternoon.</li></ul>
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Mr Banks teaches the class in the afternoon.</li><li>➤ 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 <b>between 2 and 3 hours</b> each week.</li></ul>
Thursday	
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Little Wandle books handed out.</li></ul>