



# Squirrels Summer 2019 Newsletter

This newsletter will fill you in on what to expect in the term ahead.

If you have any further questions our door is always open so please feel free to drop in.

**Please refer to the Website for further information.**

## Maths



In Maths, we will spend most of this term exploring fractions. This will involve developing children's understanding of finding fractions of objects as well as number. They will discover the concept of equivalent fractions using fraction walls as well as times tables. We will develop their problem solving skills with multi step problems. Year 4 will move onto decimals and look at the links between fractions and decimals. Later in the term, we will learn about measure in a variety of ways, for example time and area. We will try different methods, using concrete objects as well as pictorial and abstract methods. This will allow us to develop a deeper understanding.

### Maths Homework

Maths homework will continue to focus on learning times tables. Children will need to practise their relevant times tables at least 4x a week for at least 5 minutes each time. You should record this in their maths homework book by either writing them out or stating if they have practised in a different way (EG on a game). We will continue to learn their times tables in school and will be tested each **Monday**. Please note we are now expected to be able to instantly recall up to and including **12 x12 by the end of year 4**. Please help your child learn these key facts. House Points will be given as children progress through the times tables.

## English



We will continue to develop their writing following the 'Talk for Writing' approach. As part of their learning this term, we will be using the story The Door to write our own portal stories. This text will focus mainly on suspense and will build on previous skills regarding setting, character speech and openings. Specifically, the children will focus on short sentences, showing the five senses and using the idea of 'show not tell'. Your child will bring home a story map to learn as absorbing the text can help them understand types of story structure and language. Later in the term, we will be exploring how to write a discussion text, which will be also used in our topic work.

### Spellings

Spellings will continue to be given out and tested weekly. **Children will be given spellings on a Tuesday and tested on a Friday.** Please refer to the 'Strategies for Spelling' at the front of your child's English homework book. We encourage the use of 'Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check' as well as other methods when practising spellings in school and at home.

### Reading Logs

Children need to read at least 4 times a week and logs need to be signed by a parent. It is essential children read regularly at home and I hope you will support them in this. **They are responsible for changing their own books and can visit the school library each morning from 8.45am.**

## PE and Swimming



Swimming continues on a Tuesday afternoon. We will be leaving school on a coach by 2pm and will arrive back at school at about 3:35pm.

**Parent helpers are needed for the Summer term. One parent per week will be needed. Please speak to Miss Moore or Mrs Stone if you can help.**

We will continue to have PE sessions on a Monday and Thursday morning. Children will come to school in their PE kit, however, **they will be expected to bring their school uniform with them so they can be in uniform for the rest of the school day.**



## French

Squirrels will learning about Food & Drink this term. They will be comparing school dinners in France and the UK as well as giving simple opinions on food. They will be performing Ice-cream parlour role-plays and discovering how the French celebrate Bastille Day and other annual celebrations.

## Topic and Science



Our topic is '*Land Use*' - we will be exploring our local area!

We will discover how to view and create maps of our local area. To do this, we will need to visit the locality to create accurate maps and relevant keys to accompany the map. The children will also have a chance to learn about land use in the UK and what agricultural land is used for and why. We will also have chance to discuss the idea of waste on the planet and why it is important to reduce, reuse and recycle. We will be reading the Iron Man as part of our topic this term and we will have the opportunity to make their very own movable robot later in the term.

In science, we will be discovering how electricity affects our everyday lives. They will also discover how an electrical circuit works. They will investigate conductors and insulators regarding electricity. They will also learn how to add switches to circuits and how they work.

## Music



Children will continue clarinet lessons, taking place on a Monday morning before lunch. If your child chooses to practise at home, they must remember their instrument on a Monday so they can take part in the lesson.

## RE



In RE this term, we will be exploring the teachings of Judaism, their holy book, special places and festivals. Later in the term, children will also look at Hinduism and the main beliefs around this religion.

## Computing



In computing this term, we will be discovering how to use presentation software, in particular PowerPoint. They will be planning and creating branching stories using hyperlinks to select the relevant pages and continue the flow of their story.

## Safeguarding and Online Safety

Please continue to talk to your child about online safety and carefully monitor their use of online sites such as YouTube. There is a Children's YouTube that has enhanced safety.

**Please refer to the school website for further information.**

Please inform school if your child is going home with another family or family member. We will **NOT** allow a child to go with a different adult unless we have your permission.

And finally, if you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to pop in to see me or Mrs Stone.

It is generally easier after school to discuss matters but if it is urgent, please don't delay. We hope this will be an excellent and exciting term ahead. Many thanks for your cooperation.

Miss Moore and Mrs Stone.