



Squirrels Class Newsletter Term 3 2025

Welcome to Term 3; we hope you had a lovely Christmas break. It has been a pleasure to see your children back at school again and how excited they have been to tell us all about the exciting things they have been up to! We have lots to look forward to including a virtual STEM ambassador session and Science day to look forward to.



Topic

During Term 3, in Humanities, we will be delving into our topic of 'Time Travellers!' During this theme, children will explore life during the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. They will discover how people lived and the developments of the time such as the use of tools and the different types of housing and settlements. The children will investigate a range of evidence used by archaeologists to understand how we know about a time period from so long ago.

For their home learning, we would love to see children make a home for a Stone Age dweller, this can be as creative as you like: a model, a poster or a drawing! This will be a wonderful opportunity to see how much they can use their learning of the Stone Age to create a suitable settlement and show what was essential for their life.



Science

Our focus is 'Rocks. We will be comparing the attributes of different varieties of rock – categorising and sorting them based on features such as absorbency, hardness and ease of use. We will also be exploring the school ground to investigate how many different types of rock we use without even knowing that we do, exploring how rocks become sand and soil, but can also become the glass through which we use as window panes. As part of this theme, the children will investigate how fossils are created over many hundreds of years.

DT

This term they will draw and label a simple castle that includes the most common features. Recognise that a castle is made up of multiple 3D shapes. Design a castle with key features which satisfy a given purpose. Score or cut along lines on the net of a 2D shape. Use glue to securely assemble geometric shapes. Utilise skills to build a complex structure from simple geometric shapes. Evaluate their work by answering simple questions.

Maths

All children need to be practising their timetables (using TT Rockstars 3 x a week (10 minutes each time) including garage and their number bonds (using Numbots – if required). Login details can be found in the front of their reading record books.





Spellings

Spelling lists for the statutory words for year 3 and 4 will be available on the class page. As well as the 100 High Frequency words for children whom wish to become confident with these first. Year 1 and 2 spellings are also available upon request. Children will have a copy of these spellings in their trays, in class, in order to check their spellings in their own work, independently.

We will be continuing to use the spelling scheme 'Spelling Shed' the children have login details can be found in the front of their reading records. They will also bring a sheet home with them to support their learning of different spelling patterns. **Spelling tests will take place on a Monday.**

PE

PE will take place on Tuesdays afternoons. This term, our topic is 'Ball Skills' the children will have the opportunity to develop a variety of ball skills. They will develop tracking a ball when dribbling with hands, feet, throwing and kicking.

The wearing of earrings of any kind is not permitted for PE, including the use of earring tape. Please ensure all jewellery and earrings are removed before coming to school on PE days. We cannot take responsibility for the removal or storage of earrings. If your child is to have their ears pierced, please do this at the start of the summer break to avoid your child missing PE. Any child unable to do PE will be expected to complete written work within the lesson time based on what is being taught in that lesson.

Reading

The children completed their STAR assessments at the end of last term and so have their new ZPD ranges. Please encourage your children to read with you, daily, or ask them comprehension questions about what they have read in their bedrooms etc. Please also remember to sign to say that they have read their books and to which page. When they have finished a book, they can then take an Accelerated Reader test to check their understanding of the text – both house points and merits are up for grabs, each time they score 100% on a test. We some of you have been concerned that the books seem at a lower level, but please be assured the range is an accurate measure of their comprehensive understanding of the books they are reading.

Please use the following link to sign up for email notifications for Home Connect. You will then receive an email each time your child completes a quiz in school. You will also be able to find out how they are doing with their termly reading targets.

<https://global-zone61.renaissance-go.com/studentprogress/homeconnect?t=6706259>

We have daily accelerated reading sessions in class, so it's vital that your child remembers to bring their book and reading record in to school EVERY day, along with their water bottle (named) and their morning snack in tub /pot which is clearly labelled with their name to help avoid confusion if they lose it at any time on the playground. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

We have an exciting term ahead and we hope it will be a good one!

Best wishes,

Mrs Howe, Mrs Graham and Mrs Sackley

