

**Class Teacher: Mrs Byrne (Mon-Thurs) Miss Corry (Fri)**  
**Teaching Assistants: Mrs Boswell**

## **Welcome to Squirrels class page!**

### **Autumn Term Overview**

Welcome back to the Spring Term! We very excited to continue our learning journey in Squirrels class. As always, please check Seesaw for updates, memos and photos as we like to regularly share all the amazing learning that takes place on a day to day basis!

Please have no hesitation in approaching either of us at drop-off or pick-up with any queries. You can always message me via Seesaw and I will endeavour to respond within 48 hours. Alternatively, for more pressing matters, you can contact the school office via the admin email.

Please see below, the overview of our learning for the Spring Term:

## **English**

Phonics sessions will continue to take place daily. We stream for phonics to ensure your child is getting targeted phonics input to ensure their progression. Our 30 minute daily sessions focus on learning phonemes, graphemes, HFW and common exception words (tricky words) in a systematic way. If you would like to know the upcoming sounds we will be focusing on, please let me know via seesaw and I can send you a sound grid for each phase.

In English, we will be using a range of texts to inspire writing for a range of purposes including working towards orally retelling and writing their own stories based on familiar stories they have read. Some of the amazing texts that we will be exploring include *The Lion Inside* by Rachel Bright and Jim Field, *Grandpa's Gift* by Fiona Lumbers, *The Curious Case of the Missing Mammoth* by Ellie Hattie & Karl James Mountford and *Beegu* by Alexis Deacon.

## **Maths**

During the Spring term, we will continue to follow White Rose Maths scheme. Learning will focus on developing strong number sense through practical, visual and pictorial approaches, ensuring all children build confidence and understanding.

Our key areas of learning this term, will include:

**Addition and Subtraction (within 100)** Children will use concrete resources, drawings and number lines to add and subtract numbers. Year 1 pupils will build fluency within smaller numbers before extending to larger numbers, while Year 2 pupils will apply these skills confidently within 100, explaining their thinking and choosing efficient methods. We will be working on related facts, adding and subtracting 1s and 10s as well as adding and subtracting 2-digit numbers.

**Multiplication and Division** Children will explore multiplication and division through grouping, sharing and arrays. They will develop an understanding of equal groups and begin to use multiplication and division facts to solve problems.

**Length and Height** Pupils will compare, measure and record length and height using standard and non-standard units, developing accurate measuring skills and appropriate mathematical vocabulary.

**Statistics** Children will collect, organise and interpret data using pictograms, tally charts and block graphs, answering questions and drawing conclusions from their results.

## **Science**

Our Spring Term Science topic is Seasonal Changes where the children will learn about the four seasons. We will get out in the great outdoors to experience and observe the weather as well as examining the natural environment, learning to identify deciduous and evergreen trees. We will also be learning about how the seasons affect animals and make comparisons between them. As well as learning all about what the weather actually is, what types of weather there are and what causes the weather we will also be carrying out lots of practical activities to learn how to read and record temperatures. We will be measuring rainfall and learn about weather forecasts and symbols.

## **RE**

In RE this Spring term, we will be exploring the big question “What is most important for different people?” Children will learn about what different individuals and communities value as well as a range of worldview. We will also learn about “Why does Easter matter to Christians?”, focusing on the Christian belief in salvation. Through stories, discussion and creative activities, children will explore the Easter story and understand why it is such an important celebration for

Christians. Our RE lessons encourage thoughtful discussion, curiosity and respect for different beliefs and ways of life.

## **PSHE**

In our Jigsaw sessions this term, the children will learn through the units Dreams and Goals and Healthy me.

**Goals and Dreams:** We will be exploring how to set goals, work to achieve them. As well as thinking about the resilience it takes to overcome obstacles. We will also be exploring how it feels when we can achieve goals that we set ourselves.

**Healthy Me:** We will be looking at ways that we can stay healthy including how to keep ourselves clean, how to eat a healthy balanced diet and how to cross the road safely.

## **Cornerstones Topics**

### **History**

In **History** this term we will be exploring Flight Through Time! This project will help children to answer the question: How has flying changed over time and what impact has it had on people's everyday lives? During this project, we will learn about the history of flight and how human invention and brave aviators have changed the world of aviation and our everyday lives. Using a range of different sources, we will learn key facts about the history of flight, from the first flight of the Wright brothers to the invention of the jet engine by Frank Whittle. We will also learn how brave aviators, such as Bessie Coleman and Amy Johnson, blazed a trail for others and broke barriers of race and gender before considering how flight impacts people's everyday lives. We will really enrich our learning and understanding through a class trip to RAF Cosford where the children will take part in a Flying Through the Ages workshop.

### **Geography**

In **Geography** our Spring term project is Our Wonderful World. Our class will become mini Geographers as we learn to use maps, including picture maps, globes, online mapping tools and world maps as well as become familiar with the cardinal compass points, north, south, east and west. We will learn the names and positions of the continents and oceans of the world and understand the terms equator, Northern Hemisphere and Southern Hemisphere. We will begin to explore the

location of some hot and cold places and study maps to learn the names, capital cities and positions of the four countries of the United Kingdom. They will study aerial photographs and spot familiar areas of their locality from above.

## **Art**

In Art this Spring term we will be exploring collagraph printing, including how to develop a motif to make a single and repeated print in the project Rain and Sunrises!

## **DT**

Our DT project this term is titled Taxi! This project will teach the children all about wheels, axles and chassis and how they work together to make a vehicle move!

## **Music**

## **Computing**

In Computing this term, we will be building on our digital skills through a range of creative and practical activities. Children will learn to use spreadsheets, exploring cells and columns, inserting images, using simple totalling tools and creating graphs to present information. They will also create animated stories and digital books, combining digital art, text, animation and sound to bring their ideas to life. Alongside this, children will learn how to use technology safely and responsibly. Sessions will include learning about online bullying, managing online information, and understanding how technology supports health, well-being and lifestyle choices.

## **PE**

## **Information to remember**

**Reading-** Please ensure reading records and books are in school everyday so that we can listen to readers and change books on your child's book change day. Please ensure that you listen to your child read for 10 to 15 minutes a day!

**Spellings**-Spellings are set weekly on SpellingFrame and are linked to what your child is learning in their phonics sessions. SpellingFrame should be used to support spelling practise at home.

**PE/Forest School**- PE and Forest School are on a Friday afternoon with Mr Stopps. Please ensure your child comes to school in their PE kit and has waterproof suit and wellies for their Forest School Sessions.