Class Teachers: Mrs Proudfoot (Tues am, Wed-Fri) and Mr Hackett (Mon)

Welcome to Squirrels class page!

Autumn Term Overview

Welcome to Year Two! There's lots of exciting learning to be done this year and we're really looking forward to a year of practical, engaging and fun learning.

Please see what we have coming up during the Autumn Term:

English

Phonics-We follow the Twinkl phonics scheme and phonics sessions happen 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.

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 Look Up! By Nathan Bryon, Troll Swap by Leigh Hodgkinson, The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark by Jill Tomlinson and The Great Fire of London by Emma Adams.

Whole group reading sessions take place 5 times a week and will follow on from the daily phonics sessions. Sessions will focus on decoding skills, prosody development and comprehension as well as hopefully, a love of reading and books!

Year 2 will also be having two comprehension lessons a week focusing on a range of reading skills and using a range of text types.

Handwriting will take place twice a week and will be short focused sessions that will work on gross and fine motor skills.

Maths

We use White Rose Maths as a framework for our maths learning. Our focus for the Autumn term will be on developing strong number sense through practical, visual and pictorial approaches, ensuring all children build confidence and understanding and a love of all things maths!

Our key areas of learning this term, will include:

Place Value: We'll begin the year by embedding our place value skills – starting with recapping numbers to 20 before moving onto counting objects to 100 by making 10s. This will help us move onto recognising tens and ones. We'll use a range of manipulatives including ten frames and Rekenrek. We'll learn to use place value charts and number

lines. We'll look at different ways of partitioning numbers to 100 and compare objects and numbers. We'll finish by learning to count in 2s, 5s, 10s and 3s.

Addition and Subtraction: During this unit we'll focus on number bonds to 10 and then moving onto bonds to 100. Addition content will build in small steps towards adding two 2-digit numbers not across a 10 and then across a 10. We will also build towards doing this for subtraction. We'll use our new skills to compare number sentences and solve missing number problems.

Shape: Our shape work will start with identifying 2-D and 3-D shapes. We'll then move onto looking at shape properties. For 2-D shapes we'll count sides and vertices. For 3-D shapes we'll learn about faces, edges and vertices. We'll draw 2-D shapes before looking at the lines of symmetry on shapes. There will be opportunities to sort shapes and make patterns with shapes.

Science

In our first science project this year we will be exploring habitats. Children will learn what a habitat is and what a habitat needs to provide. We'll be using the wonderful natural environment we have here on the school site and explore this to identify living things and think about how they depend on one another. We'll learn about food chains and animal and plant adaptations.

After this we will move onto our 'Human Survival' project which will cover the basic needs of humans for survival. We'll look in more detail at the importance of exercise, nutrition and hygiene. We'll think about the human lifecycle and the stages of human development (baby, toddler, child, teenager, adult and elderly).

RE

In RE this term, we will begin with an Understanding Christianity unit answering the question 'Who made the world?' where we will look at the story of creation and what this story tells Christians about God, Creation and the World. This will be followed by looking at the question 'Why does Christmas matter to Christians?' which will run alongside us putting together our Nativity production.

PSHE

In our Jigsaw sessions this term, the children will learn through the units:

Being Me in My World- We will explore hopes and fears for the year, our rights and responsibilities and rewards and consequences. We will focus on our learning environment and our classroom charter.

Celebrating Differences-We will explore and unpick stereotypes. We will look at bullying and standing up for ourselves and others. We will look at celebrating our differences.

Cornerstones Topics

History

In History we will be exploring historically significant people through the unit Movers and Shakers. Children will be introduced to some incredible people that have changed things for the better and had a major impact on the world. They will learn to use timelines, stories and historical sources to find out about the people featured and use historical models to explore their significance.

Geography

In Geography our unit for the Autumn term is Let's Explore the World. We will explore atlases, maps and cardinal compass points. We will learn about the characteristics of the four countries of the United Kingdom and find out why there are hot, temperate and cold places around the world.

Art

Our Art unit through the Autumn term is Exploring Colours! We will learn all about basic colour theory by studying the colour wheel and colour mixing. We will also explore primary and secondary colours and how artists use colour in their artwork.

DT

Through our unit Remarkable Recipes we will learn about sources of food and tools used for food preparation. We will also explore why some foods are cooked and learn to read simple recipes. We will also choose and make a new school meal that fulfils specific design criteria!

Music

We will be covering two units in Music this term;

Rhyming in Time-we will be exploring moving in time the beat/pulse and responding to different tempos. We will also chant, rap and sing using different voices, following simple cues such as starting together.

Let's Start Singing-we will learn to sing songs and how to warm up our bodies and voices reading the sing! We will also create and follow the melodic shape of the songs we are singing.

Computing

Throughout the Autumn term we will be covering the online safety units; Online Bullying and Security Online Safety. We will be introduced to the programme Purple Mash and practising logging on and out as well as saving work. We will only cover simple coding

including commands and algorithms and also explore the internet, using websites and browsers.

PE

Our Autumn term focus in PE will be;

Multi-skills Throwing and Catching-in this unit we will focus on basic ball handling skills. We will learn to control a ball when we are rolling and bouncing, throwing and catching, on our own, with a partner and in a group. We will develop tracking and receiving skills for playing ball games. We will also gain experience of playing some simple team games, following rules, competing, and supporting each other to win!

Attacking & Defending Skills-this unit is all about the skills we need to develop in different team games. We will be learning about attacking skills such as passing a ball as well as defending skills such as looking to mark players. Children will have the opportunity to play a range of mini team games to help them identify and improve their skills.

Information to remember

Reading- Your child will receive a decodable Rhino Reading Book that is pitched at their phonic stage. These will be changed on the same day every week but we ask that reading records and books are brought in and out of school every day. We really encourage you to listen to your child read 10 minutes daily at home-it really does make all the difference!

Library books-in addition to your child's Rhino Reader book, your child will also bring home a library book (reading for pleasure book). These books are for you to read to and share with your child-we do not expect your child to read these independently. We will visit the library every Tuesday!

Spellings-Spellings are set weekly on SpellingFrame and are linked to what your child is learning in their phonics sessions. There will be no spelling test, SpellingFrame should be used to support spelling practise at home to consolidate spelling patterns learnt in phonics sessions.

PE/Forest School- PE will be on a Tuesday afternoon. Forest School will be on a Friday morning with Mr Stopps. Please ensure your child comes to school in their PE kits on Tuesday and Fridays and they have a labelled waterproof suit and wellies for their Forest School Sessions in a bag that can be kept on their peg.

Maths Seeds-We have the wonderful Maths Seeds platform that your child can access at home if they wish. I will assign some simple tasks linked to the objectives and units we are covering at school in order to consolidate learning each week.