



SQUIRRELS' NEWSLETTER TERM 3 2023-24

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to you all! We hope you had a fantastic Christmas and enjoyed a wonderful time together with family and friends.

This term is shaping up to a busy one already with lots to look forward to. We hope the children are all feeling rested and ready for the challenges they will be set this term.

I will be teaching the class all day on a Monday, Tuesday and a Wednesday. In order that I am able to also carry out my deputy head duties, the class will be taught by Mrs Blunt on a Thursday and a Friday. Mrs Jones will be supporting the class on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Mrs Masters on a Thursday and Friday.

If you do have any questions, comments or concerns then please do not hesitate to come and speak to me either before school or at the end of the day. You can also email me at jo.godfrey@bad.kent.sch.uk


We are all looking forward to a great new term.

Mrs Cottenden, Mrs Blunt, Mrs Jones and Mrs Masters

As a whole school, we are keen for the children to develop their independence. In Year 3, we are keen for the children to

- *Stick in their own spellings for home learning
- *Bring their reading record book into school every day
- *Go to the toilet during break times and lunch times

We thank you for your help and support with this.



Learning Overview

English - This term we are going to be looking at two very different genres- poetry and persuasive. With Mrs Cottenden, we will be looking at how advertisements persuade us to buy products and make changes to our lives. The children will be designing their own adverts about healthy living. With Mrs Blunt, the class will be looking at different types of poems including chant poems.

Maths - We will be beginning the term continuing to think about multiplication using the grid method before we move on to division. We will then spend the rest of term looking at unit fractions such as $\frac{1}{4}$ and non-unit fractions such as $\frac{2}{3}$. The children will learn to recognise these fractions and use them to find fractions of numbers and quantities. With Mrs Blunt, the class will finish working on time before looking at statistics such as bar charts and pictograms.

Science - This term the areas of Science we will be looking at include the characteristics of living things, balanced diets, sound, light, magnets and the Moon.

R.E - Our focus this term will be 'Why is the Bible important for Christians today?' This investigation enables pupils to learn in depth from different religious and spiritual ways of life about Christian scriptures - the Bible - exploring questions about what the Bible says and how the bible is used and valued in Christian communities today.

P.E - This term the children will have PE on a **Tuesday** and **Friday**. These sessions will aim to develop their understanding of different sports and the skills required to improve (e.g. hand-eye coordination, spatial awareness, agility and fitness). This term we will be learning to play netball and benchball as well as practising our key steps gymnastics. *Please ensure that your child has the appropriate kit for these sessions especially as the weather has now turned much cooler.*

DT- DT will replace art for this term. We are going to be looking at packaging. We will be looking at different types, how they suit different food items and discuss advertising.

History/Geography - We are focusing on Geography this term and learning about 'Italy Today'. We will be improving our atlas skills, examining both the physical and human geography of the country as well as looking at culture and traditions in Italy.

PSHE - This term we will be focusing on 'What are families like?' We will be thinking about who are in our families and how families mark special occasions.

Music - This term our music topic is 'Rhythm'. We will learn how songs use rhythm to add interest and will begin to use musical notation. The class will be composing rhythms of their own and will perform these to the class.

French- This unit 'On fait la fête (celebrations)' is based on being able to tell each other their achievements in games and activities. They will also learn the names of the months, as well as a birthday greeting.

Computing- The term will start off with an e-safety lesson before moving onto a topic called 'we are opinion pollsters' where we will be collecting and analysing data. The children will look at the purpose of surveys, create their own about a particular topic and input their data into graphs.

Home Learning for Term 3

Spellings

Each week the children will be given spellings on a **Thursday** that need to be practised and learnt for a test the following **Tuesday**. Spellings that the children learn will be based upon learning in class as well as from the Y3 and Y4 spelling expectations. They are asked to practise each word a number of times using a variety of spelling techniques they have been taught in class. This makes up a significant part of their home learning and I do expect that the children make time to practise and learn their spellings each week.

Times Table Tasks

Alongside spellings, the children will be set an additional, shorter task that will be related to learning their multiplication tables and corresponding division facts. These will be based on each pupil's individual need following work in school on multiplication and division facts and through a website/ app called 'MathShed'. The children have log-ins for this in their reading record book. Once they have completed the set assignment, they are then able to practise other times tables. A good place to start is 2, 5 and 10 times tables which they learnt in Year 2. In Year Three, we have reviewed these, then have begun learning the 3, 4, 6, 8 and 11 times tables. Some of the children were using this website regularly at home last term and it has made a real difference to their speed and accuracy of recall of number facts.

Reading

Regular reading should still be taking place at home. The children can read a combination of their school reading books as well as their own books from home, the class book corner or the library. Please encourage daily reading of 15 minutes, which should be recorded in their home school record book. We will continue to change reading books on a **Tuesday** and a **Friday** so please make sure that their books and reading record books are in school, particularly on these days.

Additional (optional) Learning

These tasks are all linked to our Geography topic on Italy. They are optional and do not need to be completed but will broaden their understanding of the topic.

1. Find out about famous Italian artists. Choose a piece that you particularly like and explain to a grown up why you have chosen this.
2. Find out about different Italian foods and try them. Which did you like? Why?
3. Find out about famous Italian landmarks. There are many to choose from. Who created them? Why are they there? How were they used in the past? How are they used now? You could even try making a model of one.
4. Find out some facts about Italy. How many people live there? What languages are spoken? What is the currency?
5. Create some artwork using dried pasta. There are so many shapes of pasta you can use.
6. Learn about Roman numerals and how these are used today.
7. Make a pizza from scratch. What toppings will you choose?
8. Find out about Leonardo Da Vinci, a very famous Italian. What did he do? What did he create/ invent?



Year 3 Term 3 Weekly Spelling Lists

Term 3 Week 2 Spellings - Week beginning 8.1.24

Group 2 : camel, tunnel, squirrel, travel, towel, tinsel, label, panel, hotel, angel

Group 3 : fairness, kindness, loveliness, nastiness, fitness, foolishness, tidiness, happiness, holiness, laziness

Term 3 Week 3 Spellings - Week beginning 15.1.24

Group 2 : metal, pedal, capital, hospital, animal, medal, total, final, loyal, royal

Group 3 : telephone, telegraph, telescope, television, subsoil, submarine, subway, subterranean, submerge, subordinate

Term 3 Week 4 Spellings - Week beginning 22.1.24

Group 2 : cry, fly, dry, try, reply, July, joy, fry, spy, sky

Group 3 : experience, experiment, extreme, famous, favourite, February, fruit, forward, grammar, group

Term 3 Week 5 Spellings - Week beginning 29.1.24

Group 2 : flies, tries, cries, dries, replies, copies, babies, carries, marries, spies

Group 3 : chef, special, brochure, sure, sugar, mission, machine, chalet, parachute, delicious

Term 3 Week 6 Spellings - Week beginning 5.2.24

Group 2 : copied, cried, replied, tried, dried, spied, carried, married, fried, died

Group 3 : carelessly, carefulness, harmlessly, usefulness, helplessly, thankfully, hopefully, painfully, mercilessly, angrily