



# **SQUIRRELS' NEWSLETTER TERM 2 2025-26**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back after the break. We hope that the children all enjoyed a good rest after a busy term. We have all been so proud of the way the children settled into the new school year and how hard they have all worked. They have enjoyed their topics and shown such enthusiasm for their learning.

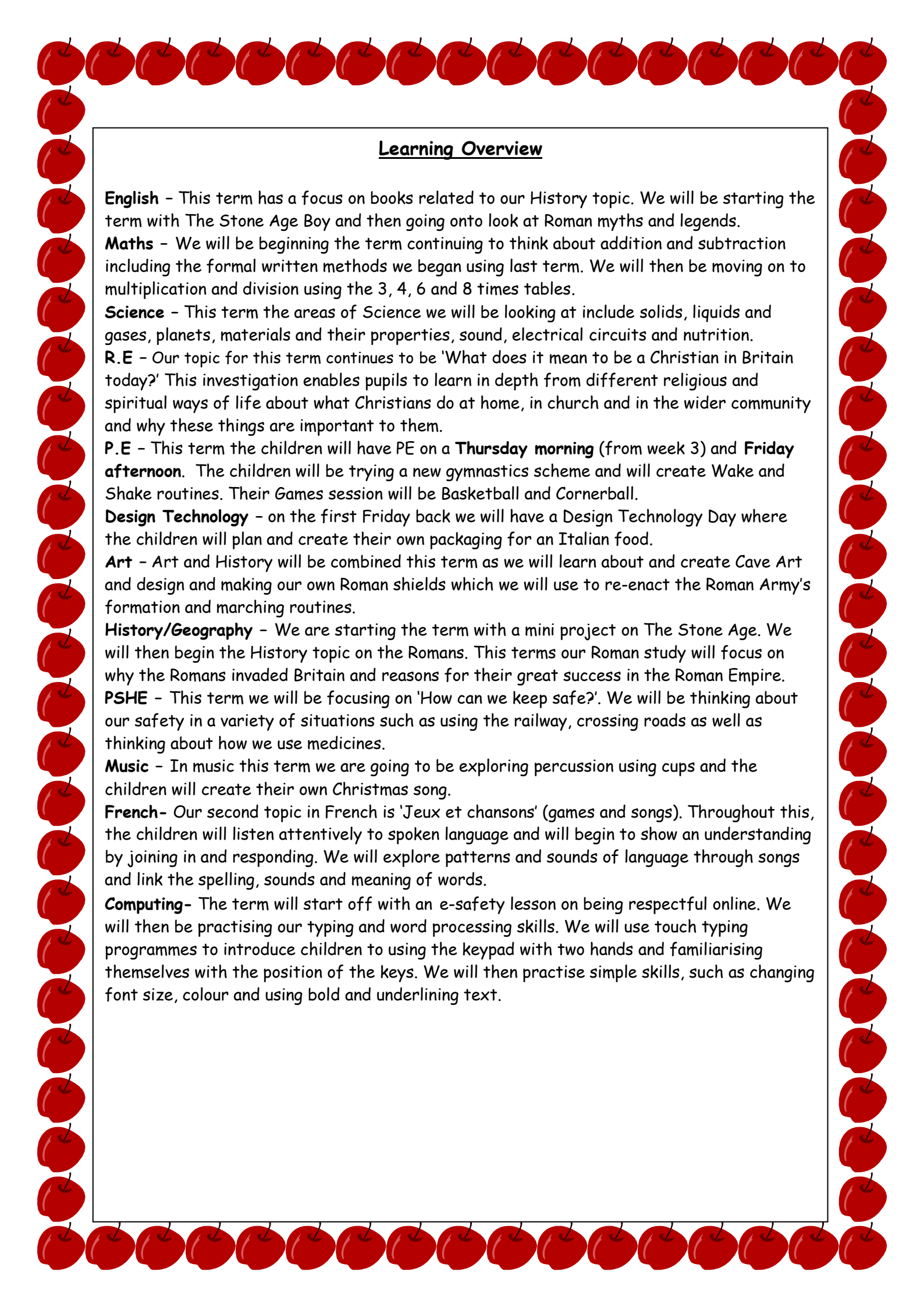
We are very pleased to welcome Miss Patterson and Miss Waters in our class to assist the children in their learning. Miss Patterson will be with us in the mornings until Christmas and Miss Waters joins us in the classroom on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Sid the Squirrel has had a lovely term visiting our Super Squirrel winners during Term 1. He is eager to visit other children this term and we would like the children to add a page to his diary of adventure. Thank you for your continued support with this.

If you do have any questions, comments or concerns then please do not hesitate to come and speak to us. You can also email us at [sarah.blunt@bad.kent.sch.uk](mailto:sarah.blunt@bad.kent.sch.uk) or [claudine.fulton@bad.kent.sch.uk](mailto:claudine.fulton@bad.kent.sch.uk)

We are all looking forward to a great new term.

Mrs Fulton, Mrs Blunt, Ms Raval and Mrs Coles.



## Learning Overview

**English** - This term has a focus on books related to our History topic. We will be starting the term with *The Stone Age Boy* and then going onto look at Roman myths and legends.

**Maths** - We will be beginning the term continuing to think about addition and subtraction including the formal written methods we began using last term. We will then be moving on to multiplication and division using the 3, 4, 6 and 8 times tables.

**Science** - This term the areas of Science we will be looking at include solids, liquids and gases, planets, materials and their properties, sound, electrical circuits and nutrition.

**R.E** - Our topic for this term continues to be 'What does it mean to be a Christian in Britain today?' This investigation enables pupils to learn in depth from different religious and spiritual ways of life about what Christians do at home, in church and in the wider community and why these things are important to them.

**P.E** - This term the children will have PE on a **Thursday morning** (from week 3) and **Friday afternoon**. The children will be trying a new gymnastics scheme and will create Wake and Shake routines. Their Games session will be Basketball and Cornerball.

**Design Technology** - on the first Friday back we will have a Design Technology Day where the children will plan and create their own packaging for an Italian food.

**Art** - Art and History will be combined this term as we will learn about and create Cave Art and design and making our own Roman shields which we will use to re-enact the Roman Army's formation and marching routines.

**History/Geography** - We are starting the term with a mini project on The Stone Age. We will then begin the History topic on the Romans. This term our Roman study will focus on why the Romans invaded Britain and reasons for their great success in the Roman Empire.

**PSHE** - This term we will be focusing on 'How can we keep safe?'. We will be thinking about our safety in a variety of situations such as using the railway, crossing roads as well as thinking about how we use medicines.

**Music** - In music this term we are going to be exploring percussion using cups and the children will create their own Christmas song.

**French** - Our second topic in French is 'Jeux et chansons' (games and songs). Throughout this, the children will listen attentively to spoken language and will begin to show an understanding by joining in and responding. We will explore patterns and sounds of language through songs and link the spelling, sounds and meaning of words.

**Computing** - The term will start off with an e-safety lesson on being respectful online. We will then be practising our typing and word processing skills. We will use touch typing programmes to introduce children to using the keypad with two hands and familiarising themselves with the position of the keys. We will then practise simple skills, such as changing font size, colour and using bold and underlining text.



## Home Learning

### 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 we do expect that the children make time to practise and learn their spellings each week.

### Times Table Tasks

Alongside spellings, the children will continue to use the website/ app called 'MathShed'. The children have log-ins for this in their reading record book and have been practising using it at school. 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 review these, then begin 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. The children are encouraged to place their book to be changed in the blue box at the front of the class. If your child needs to change their book on other days, we will do our best to accommodate this.

### Additional (optional) Learning

These tasks are all linked to our History topic on the Romans. They are optional and do not need to be completed but will broaden their understanding of the life and times of Romans in Britain.

- Times Tables with Roman Numerals -Choose a times table and write it out using Roman Numerals
- Toga Tangle- The Romans wore togas. See if you can make a toga and take a photo of you wearing it! Write some instructions for how you made the toga.
- Roman Buildings- Find out about a Roman building, then make a model of it
- Roman Baking- Make some Roman Honey Cakes or any other Roman food. Write the recipe/take a photo/bring the food into school.
- Roman Gods and Goddesses- Draw a picture of a Roman God or Goddess. Add information to the picture. What were they God of? Did they have special powers?
- Interview with a Roman Soldier- Write a list of 10 questions you would like to ask a Roman soldier who has come to Britain.