



SQUIRRELS' NEWSLETTER TERM 5 2025-26

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a great Easter break and are ready for Term 5. It is so lovely to have more hours of daylight and we can all enjoy being outdoors more again. It has been wonderful to see so many of the children grow in confidence and ability this year so far.

We will continue to have Mrs Blunt teaching on a Monday and Tuesday before Mrs Fulton takes over on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Miss Raval continues to support the class across the whole week and Miss Waters supports in her 1-to-1 role with Mrs Coles taking small groups in the mornings from Monday to Thursday.

We are hoping to take the children on our local Well-being walk this term (details to follow) and then our main trip will be at the start of Term 6.

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

We are all looking forward to a great new term.

Mrs Fulton, Mrs Blunt, Miss Raval, Miss Waters and Mrs Coles

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 will be looking at both fiction and non-fiction books about rainforests. We will start the term looking at 'The Great Kapok Tree' which supports our Geography topic and allows children to explore the effect of deforestation on the world. The children will then go on to write their own rainforest stories.

Maths - We will be revisiting fractions and time this term. This will build upon what we have already learned so far in Year 3. The class will continue to look at measures. They will be looking at units of measurement associated with length, mass and capacity. They will also do some data handling work.

Science - This term the areas of Science we will be looking at include the Moon, how soil is formed, the three states of matter, simple electrical circuits, the skeleton, pollination and how muscles work.

R.E - This investigation enables pupils to learn in depth from different religious and spiritual ways of life about prayer: the practice, symbols, words and significance of prayer are studied alongside some key beliefs about prayer, so that pupils can develop thoughtful ideas and viewpoints of their own about prayer.

P.E - This term the children will have PE on a **Wednesday** and **Friday**. On Wednesday the children will be completing their gym routines for our class competition before going on to athletics. On Fridays they will be doing cricket. **Please ensure all children have full PE kit in school every week.**

Geography - Our topic is 'The Rainforest' this term. This engaging topic will introduce children to rainforests around the world. They will learn what they are, where they are, what they contain and who lives there! Along the way they will develop their skills by creating reports about creatures of the rainforest.

Art - To compliment the children's work on rainforests they will be exploring the work of an Australian artist called B Twomey in a topic called 'Beautiful Botanicals'. They will create their own abstract pieces inspired by her work.

PSHE - This term we will be focusing on 'Why do we need to eat a healthy diet and look after our teeth?' Within this unit we will be exploring healthy food choices and how to brush our teeth effectively.

Music - This term we will continue to learn to play a musical instrument. We will be learning to play the ocarina. The children have already made so much progress and we look forward to learning some new songs.

French- 'Les quatre amis' (the four friends) is this term's topic! We will be learning how to describe our family members and our friends, using lots of practical activities, dialogue and worksheets to support our learning.

Computing- We are starting the term with our e-safety unit which is all about showing respect online. Pupils will then be moving onto making animations. We will use the programme Zu3D to create our own animations, like the ones we see on our TV screens!



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 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. In Year Three, we review the 2, 5 and 10 times table, then begin learning the 3, 4, 6, 8 and 11 times tables. It can make a real difference to their speed and accuracy of recall of number facts so please encourage your child to complete their weekly tasks.

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 **Monday** and a **Friday** so please make sure that their books and reading record books are in school, particularly on these days. We will change books on other days if necessary.

Additional (optional) Learning

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

1. Gather some pebbles and paint pictures of rainforest animals on them. You could then use these to tell a story to a family member.
2. Create animal tracks by drawing or printing patterns in the mud.
3. Make a rainforest model which shows the different layers of canopy and the animals that live there.
4. Find out about some of the many things the rainforests give to us.
5. Research what is happening to the rainforest and how the habitats of many animals are being destroyed. Write a formal letter to the *Government* to persuade them to 'Save our Rainforests'.
6. Combine the features of 2 animals from the rainforest to create your own new animal. Make a fictional fact file for it. What name would you give it? Which features did you choose and why?



Year 3 Term 5 Weekly Spelling Lists

Term 5 Week 1 Spellings - Set on 23.4.26 Tested on 28.4.26

Phonics group 2 - sauce, autumn, august, yawn, dawn, law

Phonics group 3 - launch, autumn, sauce, fault, autumn, yawn, crawl, dawn, jaw, law

Group 2 - quick, quickly, queen, quite, quiet, quietly, quest, king, know, now

Group 3 - quarter, queue, question, quest, quality, quiver, pressure, probably, promise, purpose

Term 5 Week 2 Spellings - Set on 30.4.26 Tested on 5.5.26

Phonics group 2 - pure, sure, mixture, picture, future, creature

Phonics group 3 - pure, sure, mixture, injure, future, creature, adventure, picture, treasure, figure

Group 2 - last, laugh, let, let's, liked, live, lived, long, looking, looks

Group 3 - prickle, prickly, fiddle, fiddly, gentle, gently, giggle, giggly, idle, idly

Term 5 Week 3 Spellings - Set on 7.5.26 Tested on 12.5.26

Phonics group 2 - dear, clear, year, near, appear

Phonics group 3 - dear, clear, year, near, appear, gear, beard, fear, fearful, smear

Group 2 - magic, man, many, may, miss, more, morning, most, mother, mouse

Group 3 - recent, regular, reign, remember, sentence, separate, special, straight, strange, strength

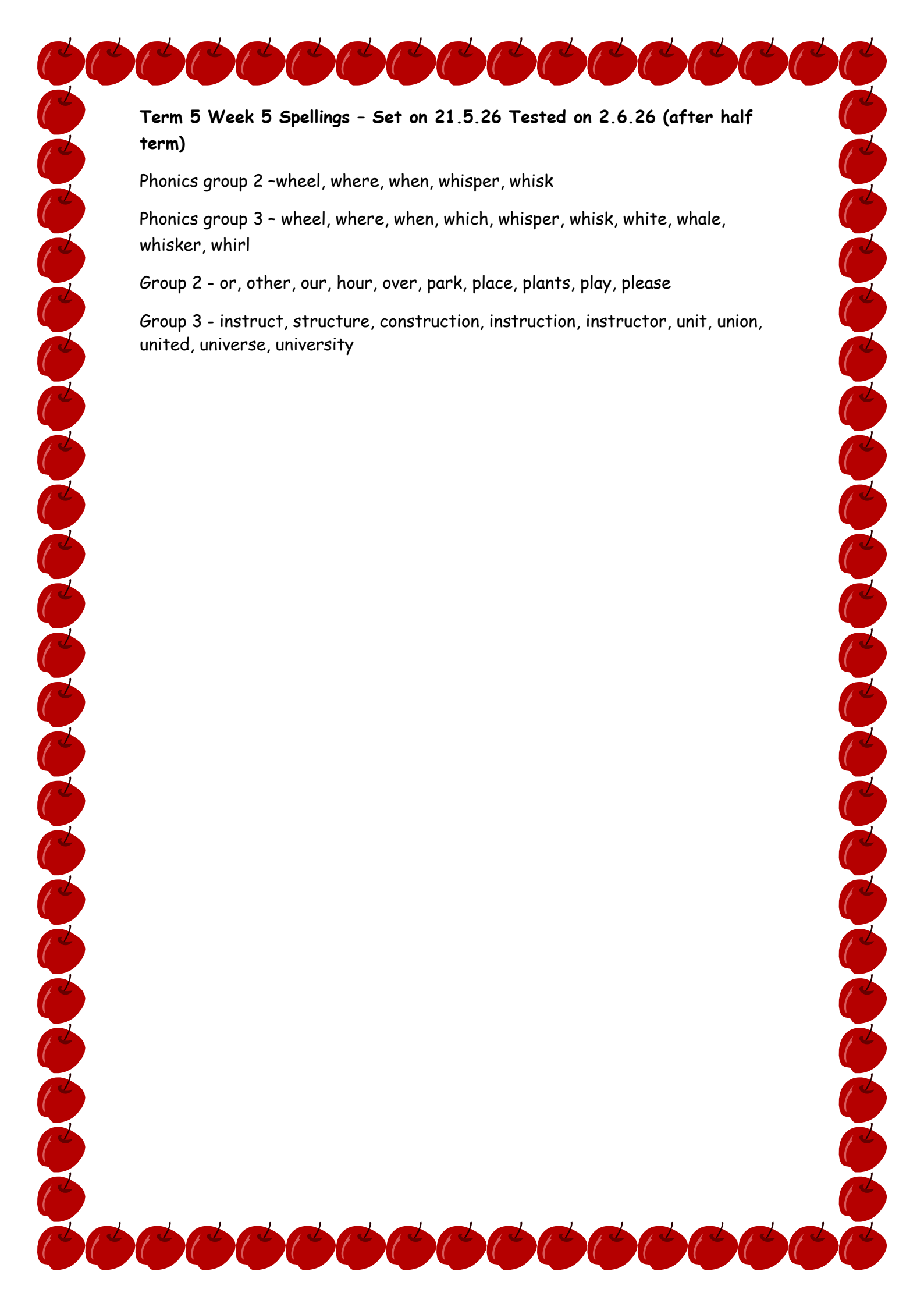
Term 5 Week 4 Spellings - Set on 14.5.26 Tested on 19.5.26

Phonics group 2 - hair, fair, chair, repair, stairs

Phonics group 3 - hair, fair, unfair, chair, repair, stairs, pair, despair, lair, wheelchair

Group 2 - much, must, narrator, need, never, new, next, night, one, only

Group 3 - basically, frantically, dramatically, magically, tragically, comically, actually, accidentally, occasionally, eventually



Term 5 Week 5 Spellings - Set on 21.5.26 Tested on 2.6.26 (after half term)

Phonics group 2 -wheel, where, when, whisper, whisk

Phonics group 3 - wheel, where, when, which, whisper, whisk, white, whale, whisker, whirl

Group 2 - or, other, our, hour, over, park, place, plants, play, please

Group 3 - instruct, structure, construction, instruction, instructor, unit, union, united, universe, university