



# **SQUIRRELS' NEWSLETTER TERM 6 2023-24**

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a great half term break and enjoyed the time together as a family. I can't quite believe that we are entering the final term of the year. This year has flown by! The children continue to wow us with their progress. They are growing in confidence and will be more than ready for Year 4.

I will continue to teach the whole class on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Mrs Blunt will continue to teach the class on a Thursday and Friday. Mrs Goode will be supporting the class every day. Mrs Jones will support the class on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Mrs Masters will support them on every day.

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](mailto: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** - With Mrs Cottenden, we will be exploring texts that discuss important issues. We will be studying the books of 'The Great Kapok Tree' and 'The Shaman's Apprentice' which are both set in the rainforest and explore issues affecting the environment there. With Mrs Blunt, the children will be reading 'Diary of a Killer Cat' and exploring humorous fiction. They will go on to write play scripts for parts of the story.

**Maths** - We will be revisiting our written strategies for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division this term as well as developing our understanding of place value. We will end the term looking at statistics. With Mrs Blunt, the class will look at money. They will also revisit 2D and 3D shapes as well as angles.

**Science** - This term the areas of Science we will be looking at include how different plants and animals are suited to the habitat in which they live, melting and freezing, electrical conductors and insulators, the digestive system and the formation of fossils.

**R.E** - This term we will be discussing a key question: what do different people believe about God? This investigation enables pupils to learn in depth from different religions and spiritual ways of life regarding diverse beliefs about God. The children will engage in systematic enquiry into significant questions which religion and worldviews address, so that they can develop the understanding and skills needed to appreciate and appraise varied responses to questions, as well as their own.

**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). *Please ensure that your child has the appropriate kit for these sessions. Earrings should be removed for PE lessons and hair should be tied up.*

**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, booklets about creatures of the rainforest, and becoming David Attenborough!

**Art**- Alongside our rainforests topic the children will be creating some artwork based on the artist Henri Rousseau's painting of 'Surprise (Tropical storm with a tiger)'. The children will begin exploring his style of painting and will create their own finished piece.

**PSHE** - This term we will be focusing on 'Why should we keep active and sleep well?' Within this unit we will be exploring different types of physical activity and its effects on our bodies. We will also be thinking about the benefits of sleep and a good bedtime routine to support this.

**Music** - This term we are going to continue to learn to play a musical instrument. We will be learning to play the ocarina. This is a small wind instrument with four holes that can play 11 different notes.

**French**- Our final French topic in year three is Ça Pousse! (Growing things). The purpose of this unit is to teach the children some names of vegetables and how to say what they like and do not like.

**Computing**- We are starting the term with our e-safety unit which is all about showing respect online. The topic for this term is 'We are Bug Fixers' where the children will look at computer programmes, such as Scratch, with bugs and aim to solve them. They will also be using our newest kit, 'Microbit', and will be programming these using code to do different things such as make noises, show icons and count.



## 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. The spellings for the term can be found below.

### 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 and have used 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. More 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. In fact, for many weeks last term Y3 were top of the school for their Mathshed use! Keep it up Y3!

### 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 of course change books more regularly than this if it is needed.

### 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 6 Weekly Spelling Lists

### **Term 6 Week 1 Spellings - Week beginning 3.6.24**

Group 2 - Badge, edge, bridge, dodge, fudge, age, huge, change, charge, village

Group 3 - Suppose, surprise, therefore, though, thought, through, various, weight, woman, women

### **Term 6 Week 2 Spellings - Week beginning 10.6.24**

Group 2 - Gem, gel, giant, magic, giraffe, energy, jacket, jar, jog, join

Group 3 - Young, double, touch, trouble, country, rough, enough, courage, rough, cousin

### **Term 6 Week 3 Spellings - Week beginning 17.6.24**

Group 2 - Race, face, pace, ice, cell, cellar, city, nice, twice, rice,

Group 3 - Truly, duly, wholly, fully, daily, publicly, dryly, slyly, shyly, coyly

### **Term 6 Week 4 Spellings - Week beginning 24.6.24**

Group 2 - Knee, knock, know, knew, knife, knit, knitting, gnat, gnaw, gnome

Group 3 - heel, heal, he'll, plain, plane, groan, grown, rain, rein, reign

### **Term 6 Week 5 Spellings - Week beginning 1.7.24**

Group 2 - Write, written, wrote, wrong, wrap, wrapping, wrist, wreck, right, rap

Group 3 - Attractive, awe-inspiring, breath-taking, glorious, magnificent, spectacular, majestic, splendid, impressive, regal

### **Term 6 Week 6 Spellings - Week beginning 8.7.24**

Group 2 - Able, table, apple, bottle, little, middle, kettle, fiddle, bubble, stable

Group 3 - Hideous, eerie, frightening, sinister, spine-chilling, unnerving, silent, tranquil, petrified, terrified