

# Year 1 Squirrel Class



## Newsletter



Spring Term 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you and your family had an enjoyable Christmas break and are looking forward to the new term. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all of the kind words, cards and gifts that you gave us which were greatly appreciated.

This newsletter aims to remind you of some of the key information and routines of Year 1 and inform you of what we will be learning about in the Spring term.

### Phonics

Phonics continues to be a crucial part of Year 1. We will be running a phonics workshop on the afternoon of **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February**. This will allow us to give you some information about the Phonics Screening Test that will take place in the summer term, show you some of the games and activities we use to develop the children's phonics knowledge and give you some ideas of how you can help support their learning at home.



### Reading

We hope that you will continue to support us in encouraging your child to read at home for at least 10 minutes every night and bring their reading record every day.

We will continue to change reading books on **Monday, Wednesday and Friday**, providing the book has been read and the reading record has been signed.

### Home Learning

In addition to the weekly home learning task, children will be given a 'Words to Learn' spelling list.

### Water Bottles

Please ensure that your child has a named water bottle to keep in the classroom in addition to their lunchtime drink.



### P.E.

The class will continue to have P.E. on **Thursdays and Fridays**. Children are expected to have full P.E. kit in order to participate. We recommend that they have jogging bottoms to wear outside in cold weather.

## **Spring Term Learning**

Our topic themes for this term are:

### **Do penguins get cold feet?**

- Key text: The Emperor's Egg by Martin Jenkins
- Literacy: Information texts and stories with patterned language
- Art: Painting and printing skills
- Science: Animals including humans: identifying, comparing and describing animals
- History: Great explorers
- R.E. – Who is Jesus? Why does Jesus tell parables?

### **Do all fairytales have a happy ending?**

- Key text: The Story Tree by Hugh Lipton
- Literacy: Traditional tales
- Design and Technology: building a story box
- Music: Sound pictures with instruments.
- Science: Seasonal changes
- Geography: the UK, its countries and capitals
- R.E. – Is Easter happy or sad?

### **Our maths work this term will be covering:**

- Adding and subtracting
- Number and place value (within 50)
- Measurement: length, height and weight
- 2D and 3D shapes

Children will also have a 30 minute Spanish lesson each week, taught by a specialist language teacher.

### **Visits and trips**

To link in with our science topic on animals, we are arranging a special visit from one of the keepers at Birdworld who will be bringing a variety of animals with them for us to meet. Further details will be confirmed shortly!

### **Parent Helpers**

We welcome offers of help from parents who are willing to test children on their spellings or hear children read on a regular basis. If you are interested, please come and discuss your availability with us.

**We hope you find the information in this newsletter useful. You are always welcome to contact us to discuss any concerns that you may have. Thank you for your continued support.**

**Mr Miseldine:** Class Teacher

**Mrs Wakeling:** Teaching Assistant

**Mrs Rodriguez:** Teaching Assistant

**Mrs Strong:** Teaching Assistant

