



## Information for the Autumn Term 2023



### Welcome to Squirrels and Badgers classes

Here are some snippets of information to let you know about the things we will be doing this term in our classes.

<b>Mathematics</b>	Counting, understanding hundreds, tens and ones, securing number facts, understanding addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, mental calculation strategies, understanding shape and space, problem solving, fractions, money and handling data.
<b>English</b>	We will be focusing on sentence structure, spelling, punctuation and handwriting. We will be reading Pinocchio and writing our own traditional tale, learning about the structure of poetry and writing instructions on how to make a bird feeder.
<b>Science</b>	Seasonal changes and habitats
<b>Computing</b>	Learning about technology around us.
<b>History and Geography</b>	How I am making history? What is it like here?
<b>DT</b>	Learning about structures and how to build a windmill.
<b>Art</b>	A focus on drawing and how different marks can create a picture.
<b>Music</b>	Pulse and rhythm (All about me) Classical music, dynamics and tempo (Animals)
<b>RE</b>	How did the world begin? What do some people believe God looks like?
<b>PE</b>	Yoga, developing ball skills, and sending and receiving.

### **Reading**

Your child will take home three books: a Big Cat decodable book (they should be about to read the majority of this by sight), a book of their choice, and a library book.

Please make sure library books are returned on a Thursday as this is when they are changed. Books will only be renewed when the last one is returned to school.

Reading books will be changed after the children have finished their third reading session in school. Their old book will be replaced with the one they have just read together with us.

### **Water Bottles**

Please make sure your child has a named water bottle in class everyday. Keeping hydrated has been shown to be beneficial for health and well-being.

### **Warmer Weather**

We have had some unusually hot weather recently so please keep an eye on the forecast and, if it looks like it is going to be hot, please send your child with a sun hat and apply suncream at home. For the cooler wetter weather please provide warmer wet weather clothes.

### **Spellings**

A spelling sheet will be posted on Class Dojo listing this term's spellings and the date of each test. The spellings will be linked to children's current phonics phase and the sound/sounds they've been learning during the week.

Most children find that using the 'Look, Say, Cover, Write and Check' method works well. You can extend their word skills by playing word games with them, such as hangman, scrabble and anagram games. Similarly, they could try to put each word in a sentence, etc.

### **Maths**

There are lots of things your child could be practising at home with you. For example, they could be learning their times tables, starting with x2, x5, x10. They could also be learning to tell the time (o'clock, half past, quarter past and quarter to). They could be identifying different 2d and 3d shapes, and counting out money to pay for items in a shop and working out their change. Children also need to be able to remember number bonds to 10 and 20.

### **PE**

We have PE on Monday and Tuesday afternoons. The children will need a clearly labelled kit to include: a plain white t-shirt, shorts and indoor trainers AND a tracksuit and outdoor trainers. Due to limited locker space, please provide a small, named PE bag. Back packs are very bulky and we find that drawstring PE bags fit better.

PE kits do not need to go home every week - they can remain in school and go home each holiday. If kit gets grubby, we will send it home to you.

If your child has pierced ears, they can wear stud earrings; however, these need to be removed by the child before PE lessons. It is easier not to wear earrings on PE days.

**Any questions, please contact Miss Bates or Miss Willer on ClassDojo, email the school office or grab one of us after school.**

**We appreciate your ongoing support.**

**The Squidger team!**