

**Squirrel Class Newsletter**  
**Autumn 1<sup>st</sup> Half 2017**

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **R.E**

In **RE** the unit is about: *Creation - Where we will look again at the creation story and recognise that it is the beginning of the 'big story' of the Bible. We will think about what the story tells Christians about God, Creation and the world.*

### **PSHE**

Our *New Beginnings* theme focuses on developing children's knowledge understanding and skills in four key social and emotional aspects of learning: empathy, self-awareness, social skills and motivation. It offers children the opportunity to *see themselves as valued individuals within their community.* Throughout the theme, children explore feelings of happiness and excitement, sadness, anxiety and fearfulness, and learn shared models for 'calming down' and 'problem solving'.

### **English**

Alongside the daily phonics sessions, grammar and guided reading sessions the children will complete two literacy based units. The first is based on stories in a familiar setting and the second on fantasy stories.

#### **Unit 1**

In this unit Year 1 will be writing, leaving spaces between words; beginning to punctuate sentences using a capital letter and a full stop, a question or exclamation mark.

Year 2 will be learning how to use punctuation correctly, including capital letters, full stops, question or exclamation marks; learning how to use sentences with different forms: statement, question, exclamation, command; co-ordination: using conjunctions (and, or, but) to join simple sentences.

#### **Unit 2**

Here Year 1 will writing, leaving spaces between words; using capital letters for the names of people, places, days of the week, etc.

Year 2 will be learning how to use punctuation correctly, including capital letters, full stops, question or exclamation marks; beginning to understand the concept of a verb; using and distinguishing past tense.

### **Maths**

This half-term Year 1 will estimate and count reliably up to 20 objects; recognise and estimate numbers more and less than 10; order and compare numbers to 20

using a line; make 'teen' numbers by adding some more to 10. Partition 5 and learn bonds to 5; add 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 to 5 by counting on; add 1 or 2 to numbers to 6 by counting on; add by counting on.

Year 2 will place 2-digit numbers on a line; count in 10s from 1-digit and 2-digit numbers; estimate a quantity, then count in 10s; write place value additions for 2-digit numbers; perform place value additions and subtractions. Know pairs to 10 and 20; use a symbol to represent a missing number; add and subtract 10s using Spider or coins.

### **Science**

In our *Amazing Animals* topic we will begin using plastic animal toys, sort them into different groups and learn all about carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. The children will find out what animals, including humans, need to survive and how their habitats provide these things.

### **Geography**

As *Geographers* we will develop fieldwork skills, use of maps and atlases and learn about key human and physical features. The children will also learn to name and locate the 7 continents and 5 oceans and find out about hot and cold areas in the World.

### **Physical development**

*Mr Green* will continue to take the children twice a week for gymnastics, team skills and games.

### **Art and DT**

The children will continue to use drawing, painting and sculpture to develop and share their ideas, experiences and imagination. They will develop a wide range of art and design techniques using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space.

### **Computing**

In this topic we will find out what the different parts of a computer do and begin to write simple algorithms.

Many thanks  
Tanith Pearce