



## Welcome to Squirrels Class Autumn Term 1



### Year 1 and 2:



Our curriculum project this half term is Avast Ahoy! Come on an adventure across the high seas to discover the Pirate way of life! Our topic explores the oceans and continents, investigates materials, searches for wanted pirates and creates colourful parrots. Our topic culminates in our Pirate Day! Aha!

#### English

The children will continue to access a range of opportunities during their Read, Write Inc. phonics lessons. We will send home links to the Read Write inc. virtual classroom videos. Please watch these with your child to help reinforce their phonics learning at home.

This half term in English, the children will be exploring pirate-themed books through a variety of exciting activities. They will practise writing character descriptions to bring pirates to life, and work on retelling stories in their own words to develop sequencing and comprehension. The children will also create a mini biography of a famous pirate, design wanted posters to show their understanding of description and persuasive language and explore pirate poetry. Finally, they will step into a pirate's shoes by writing a diary entry, using imaginative detail to capture daily life at sea.

**Spellings:** We will have plenty of opportunities to learn the Year 1 and 2 common exception words throughout the term.

#### Science – Living things and their habitats

In Science, we will be exploring **living things and their habitats**, learning about the differences between things that are living, dead and have never been alive. We will also find out how different habitats meet the needs of animals and plants and begin to understand simple food chains.

#### History

There is no History focus this term.

#### PSHE

In PSHE during the first week, we will be exploring **British Values** through sessions on the **Rule of Law, Democracy and Tolerance**. We will think about our responsibilities at home, at school and with friends, and how rules and democratic decisions help us feel safe and happy.

#### PE

Will be taught by Emma Vaughn on a Friday.

#### Maths

In Maths this term, our Year 1 and 2 children will be focusing on key White Rose topics to strengthen their number skills. Year 1 will be learning about **place value within 20**, recognising and ordering numbers, and understanding how numbers are made up of tens and ones.

Both Year 1 and Year 2 will also be developing their skills in **addition and subtraction within 20**, using practical resources, number bonds and mental strategies to solve problems.

Year 2 will then move on to explore **place value within 100**, building confidence in recognising tens and ones and applying this knowledge to compare and order numbers. These areas of learning will give children a strong foundation for future mathematical understanding.

#### Art

In Art, we will be creating **Pirate and Parrot collages**, inspired by the work of **David Hockney**. We will experiment with tools and paint to create textures, practise cutting shapes carefully, and combine materials to produce our own textured collages.

#### Geography

In Geography, we will be learning about the **continents and oceans of the world**. We will use maps to locate them, describe where they are found, and learn more about the features of the continent we live in.

#### RE

In RE, we will be finding out about what the Qur'an says about how Muslims should live their lives and treat others. We will explore some key aspects of the Islamic faith, including the Five Pillars, the meaning of Akhlaq, and the story of the Prophet Muhammad.

#### Computing

In Computing this term, we will be learning **how to write an algorithm** by giving clear instructions and making predictions. We will design

routes, create simple algorithms, and practise debugging when things don't go as planned.

**Other Notes:**

**PE** this term is on a Friday. Please remember children will need to come to school wearing their kit.

**Forest school** takes place on a Wednesday afternoon.

**Reading:** Children will be heard reading at least once a week. Please read on a regular basis at home throughout the week and ensure you bring your books to school each day. Children will bring home the phonics book they have read in school, an additional phonics book and a reading for pleasure book.

**Seesaw:** We love to see what you have been up to at home as this helps us to build up an overall learning journey for your child. Please upload experiences from home so we can talk to your child about this at school.

**We are looking forward to an exciting and busy Autumn Term ahead!**