



Welcome to Squirrels Class

Autumn Term 2



Year 1 and 2:



The Great Fire of London!

Welcome to our exciting new half term in Year 1 and 2! The children will be exploring lots of interesting topics including an in-depth look at the Great Fire of London. We have a range of hands-on activities and challenges planned to help them learn, create, and have fun, from building strong structures in DT to writing diary entries like Samuel Pepys in English.

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.

In English this half term, the children will be learning how to write different kinds of texts. They will create information texts about the Plague, chronological reports about the Great Fire of London, and diary entries inspired by Samuel Pepys. The class will practise organising their writing, using interesting words, and sharing their ideas clearly.

Spellings: This term we will be setting spelling homework through the Spelling shed. Please logon each work to have a look at the assignment set.

Maths

In Maths this half term, we'll be learning about numbers up to 100 and shapes. The children will practise counting, comparing and ordering numbers, and finding out what each digit means. They will use practical resources like number lines, counters, and cubes to help them understand numbers.

We'll explore 2D and 3D shapes, describing their sides, corners and faces. The children will also sort, draw and build shapes, spotting similarities and differences between them. We will play fun games and challenges to practise using numbers and shapes in real-life situations. Children will be encouraged to explain their thinking and share their ideas with the class.

By the end of the unit, they will be able to use what they have learned to solve simple problems independently.

Science – In Science, we're continuing to learn all about animals and how they grow. The children will be spotting and naming different animals, including minibeasts and birds, and finding out what makes them special. They'll also learn about carnivores, herbivores and omnivores, and how to sort them using Venn diagrams. Finally, we'll explore how animals, including humans, have babies that grow into adults—just like us!

DT- In DT this half term, the children will be learning how to design and build their own structures. They will explore different materials and think carefully about which ones are best for making their ideas strong and stable. The class will plan and draw their designs before starting to build, practising how to follow their plan step by step. We will play fun challenges to see whose design is the strongest or most creative. The children will be encouraged to talk about their ideas and explain their choices.

History- In History this half term, we'll be finding out all about the Great Fire of London! The children will discover what London was like in 1666 and how the fire started and spread. They'll learn about Samuel Pepys and his famous diary that tells us what really happened. We'll also look at how the fire changed London, making it a safer and cleaner place to live, and how it helped to stop the plague from spreading.

Geography

There is no Geography focus this term.

PSHE

In PSHE this half term, the children will be learning about feelings, emotions, and how their actions affect themselves and others. They will explore different emotions, think about how to respond thoughtfully, recognise their own strengths and challenges, and learn ways to manage their mood and seek support when needed.

RE

In RE this half term, the children will be learning about Islamic worship and celebrations. They will find out how Muslims are welcomed into the community, learn about naming ceremonies, Ramadan, Eid ul-Fitr and Eid ul-Adha, and explore how these events help create a feeling of belonging.

PE

Will be taught by Emma Vaughn on a Friday.

Computing

In Computing this half term, the children will be learning how to take and improve digital photographs. They will explore different devices, learn what makes a good photo, use tools to edit images, and understand that pictures can be changed and enhanced.

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!