



## Welcome to Squirrels Class Spring Term 4



### Retro Robots

This half term, our topic *Retro Robots!* will encourage the children to explore how toys and entertainment have changed over time and to understand how the toys they enjoy today have developed. Through discussion, investigation and hands-on activities, children will learn about toys from the past and compare them with modern toys, helping them to build an understanding of the past and present. The topic will also inspire creativity, with opportunities to design and create artwork, explore movement and dance, and express their ideas in imaginative ways. This cross-curricular topic will support learning in history, art, computing and PSHE, while developing curiosity, creativity and confidence. Watch this space for some exciting outcomes as the term unfolds!

### 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 non-fiction texts using Talk for Writing. We will be basing our writing around toys and robots! We will be looking at how to form sentences and how we can make them more interesting with conjunctions and adjectives.

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

### Maths

This half term in maths, Year 1 and 2 will continue to follow the White Rose Maths scheme, building confidence through practical, hands-on learning and clear mathematical thinking. Children will explore topics such as multiplication and division, fractions, measurement, and problem solving, using concrete resources, pictorial representations and discussion to deepen understanding. We will encourage children to explain their thinking, make connections, and apply their skills to real-life situations, helping them to become confident and resilient mathematicians.

**Science** - In Science, we will be learning about materials and how they can change. The children will explore a range of everyday materials and describe their properties, such as whether they are hard, soft, waterproof or flexible. They will investigate how materials can be changed by actions such as bending, stretching, twisting and squashing. The children will also observe what happens when materials are heated or cooled, and learn that some changes are reversible while others are not. Through simple investigations and hands-on activities, pupils will compare materials and think about why certain materials are suitable for different uses.

### Art

This half term, the children will be exploring a range of printing techniques in Art. They will investigate how different materials, tools and textures can be used to create prints, experimenting with colour, pattern and shape. The children will be encouraged to try out their ideas, evaluate what works well and make changes to improve their designs. By the end of the term, they will apply the skills they have learned to create their own Robot print, showcasing their creativity and developing confidence as young artists.

### History - Toys Through the Ages

This half term, the children will be learning about *toys through the ages* and how they have changed over time. They will explore a range of toys from the past and present, naming and sorting them into groups and discussing what materials they are made from and how they work. The children will compare old and modern toys, thinking about similarities and differences and considering how toys have developed as technology and materials have changed. Through discussion and hands-on activities, they will also reflect on how children's entertainment has changed over the years and what this tells us about life in the past.

### Geography Not this term

**Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) - Drug Education**

This half term, the children will be learning about medicines and drugs as part of their PSHE lessons. They will explore what medicines are used for, why they are important, and how health professionals and hospitals help to keep us well. The children will learn that some substances can be dangerous if not used properly and will discuss the importance of following instructions and rules. They will also be taught to always ask a trusted adult, health professional, or check first before taking any medicine, helping them to develop a basic understanding of staying safe and looking after their health.

**Religious Education - Christianity**

This half term in Religious Education, the children will be exploring Christianity through the key question "Celebrating Birth: What does it mean to Christians and why does it matter to belong?" They will learn about what belonging means and why it is important to Christians, particularly through celebrations linked to birth, such as baptism. Children will explore how Christians welcome new members into their community and how these celebrations show care, love and commitment. Through stories, discussion and reflection, pupils will also be encouraged to think about what belonging means in their own lives and communities.

**PE**

Will be taught by Emma Vaughn on a Friday.

**Computing - Data Handling**

This half term in Computing, the children will be learning about data handling. They will collect information and represent it using pictograms, tally charts and block graphs, helping them to organise and interpret data in simple ways. The children will practise asking questions, sorting information and discussing what the data shows. This learning links closely to Year 2 Maths statistics, supporting children in making connections across subjects and developing their confidence in using data to answer questions.

**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 Spring Term ahead!**