

Squirrel Class Newsletter January 2024 - Terms 5 & 6



Dear Families,

Welcome back! We hope you all had a restful Easter holiday. We have been delighted with how fantastically the children have returned to school, full of enthusiasm for our new topics and with a positive attitude to their learning.

Our topic this term is '**School Days**'. During this topic we will learn about our own school and locality, both today and in the past. We will compare schooling in the Victorian era to their experiences today. This half term we will be concentrating on Teynham school in the past, present and future. We will use photographs to find out more about the school's history, we will make maps and sketches of the school and grounds and think about what the school will be like in the future. It is a particularly exciting time to be doing this topic as we are able to watch all the exciting building work happening on our new school! As well as this, we will design our dream school where there will be no limits on the children's creativity – the more imaginative the better! Next half term we will have the opportunity to take part in a traditional Victorian class and learn about the differences between schooling in the Victorian era and schooling today. The children will learn about objects found in a Victorian classroom and how they were used, and describe the passage of time through study of past, present and future tense vocabulary.

In **English** we will link our writing to our topic of 'School Days'. We will read a variety of stories and information books about schools today and in the past. Our writing will focus on list poems, diaries and letters. In **Science** we will be studying Plants, learning about wild and garden plants by exploring the local environment. We will identify and describe the basic parts of plants and observe how they change over time. We will also learn about animals, including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals and invertebrates. We will identify and describe their common structures, diets, and how animals should be cared for.

In **Maths** we will be looking at measurement where we will use lots of practical activities to develop understanding of length and height, mass and volume, time and money. We will begin to look at multiplication and division, counting in 2s, 5s and 10s, making groups and arrays and sharing into groups. This will lead into fractions where we will learn about halves and quarters, both of shapes and quantities.

Thank you for your continued support with **Home Learning**. Please continue to send **reading books and reading records** into school every day. We will change books on a Monday and a Thursday. **Home learning** books will be sent home next week with a new home learning grid.

The children have 2 P.E. lessons a week. This term it is on a **Wednesday** and **Friday**. The Wednesday lesson is with our TeamTheme coach. Please ensure that your child has a full, named P.E. kit in school. For health and safety reasons, children wearing earrings will not be able to participate in P.E. lessons, so please ensure earrings are removed on our P.E. days.

Diary Dates

- Tuesday 23rd and Wednesday 24th April – Parent Consultations
- Monday 6th May – May Bank Holiday
- Tuesday 21st May – Year 1 Class Assembly
- Tuesday 21st May – KS1 Film Night
- Friday 24th May – End of Term
- Monday 3rd June – Staff Development Day
- Tuesday 4th June – Term starts for children
- Friday 24th June – KS1 Father's Day Breakfast
- Monday 8th July – Friday 12th July – Sports Week
- Thursday 18th July – whole school transition day
- Tuesday 23rd July – End of term

Please do not hesitate to speak to us if you have any questions.

Thank you for your support.

Kind Regards

Mrs Thomas, Mrs Wickham and Mrs Bellevue