Squirrels' Letter – Spring 2025



Happy New Year to you all!

During our first week back, the children have been very excited to share their holiday news and special toys. Please add any pictures of your holiday to Tapestry so the children can refer to them and talk about the many traditions and family customs they enjoyed at home. This links nicely to Rights Article 30: *Every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs and religion of their family, regardless of whether these are shared by the majority of the people in the country where they live.*

On **Tuesday 13th January**, we will be having a **Super Hero Day!** The children will take part in exciting activities linked to their learning, which will introduce our new topic. Children should come to school dressed as a superhero or heroine of their choice. We will be exploring both fictional and real-life heroes and how they help others.
(Please see me if you have any difficulty organising a costume. Homemade costumes and unique superhero creations are absolutely welcome!)

We will be designing our own curriculum around superheroes, following the children's questions and interests alongside teacher-led activities. They will learn about people in the community who help to keep them safe, as well as how they can keep themselves safe. **The right to be safe** will be our key focus this term. The children will also listen to superhero-themed music and create their own dances, as well as read a wide variety of fiction and non-fiction books on the topic. This term, we will also focus on being a **"Have a Go Hero"**—being courageous, unafraid of failure, and ready to take on new challenges.

In **Little Wandle Phonics**, we will be learning Phase 3 graphemes, including longer words and words with double letters: *dd, mm, tt, bb, rr, gg, pp, ff*. The children will be consolidating their knowledge and transferring it into their writing. They will play phonics games and have regular opportunities to practise within the continuous provision. The new tricky words for this half term are: **was, you, they, my, by, all, are, sure, pure**.

Please continue to read together frequently, exploring the text and pictures and sharing ideas. Record each reading session in the reading diary, including your comments, and tick the list so we can reward children for their efforts.

In Maths, we will investigate various numeracy themes, including money, size, and times of the day. We will continue working on addition and subtraction within numbers to 5 and 10, ensuring the children know one less and one more with numbers to 10 and 20. They will also become familiar with number bonds to 5 and begin to record using marks they can interpret.

In PE, the children will take part in REAL PE lessons. Their PE kit should remain in school all week. The children will also have access to a range of fine and gross motor activities, with increasing control over small tools and the development of a tripod grip for writing. We are also very excited to have a **Bikeability** week from **Monday 26th January – Thursday 29th January**— a letter has been sent home for you to register.

Our next **Welcome In Wednesday** will take place on **Tuesday 3rd February**, and we look forward to sharing the children's work with you.

Many thanks,
Mrs Hudgell