Squirrels' Letter Spring 2024



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 on to Tapestry so children can refer to them and discuss the many traditions and family customs they enjoyed at home. This links nicely to our 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 the **9th January we will be having a Super Hero Day!** The children will take part in exciting activities which link to their learning and this will start our new topic. The children need to come to school dressed as a **super hero/ heroine** of their choice. We will be looking at both fictional and real life super heroes and how they help people.

(Please see me if you have any problems organising a costume. Remember you can make your costume and create your own super hero).

We will be designing our own curriculum on super heroes, following the children's questions and interests with teacher led activities. They will learn about the people in their community who keep them safe and how they can keep themselves safe. The right to be safe will be our focus this term. The children will be listening to super hero themed music and creating their own dance, reading a wide variety of fictional and non-fictional topic books. 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** – longer words and words with double letters: *dd mm tt bb rr gg pp ff*. The children will consolidating their knowledge ready to be transferred into their writing. The children will be playing games and will have opportunities to practise and rehearse in the continuous provision. The new tricky words this half term are: *was you they my by all are sure pure.*

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

Through the topics, we will investigate various numeracy themes including money, size, weight and time. We will continue to work (addition and subtraction) with numbers to 5 and 10, ensuring we know one less and one more with numbers to 10 and 20. The children will familiarise themselves with number bonds to 5. Also the children will begin to record using marks they can interpret.

In PE, the children will have two REAL PE lessons. **Their PE kit should be in school all week.** The children will have access to a variety of fine and gross motor activities, including their control of small tools becoming more refined, beginning to use a tripod grip for writing.

Welcome in Wednesday will be on Wednesday 17th January. We look forward to sharing our work with you.

Many thanks

Mrs Hudgell