Squirrels Letter Autumn 2023



Dear Parents/Carers,

We are very pleased to welcome all the new children and parents to Squirrels class and Broughton School. This term we will be getting to know each other, the school and settling into school routines. We are already getting to know the Golden Rules and meeting all the adults throughout the school.

This half term will be "Healthy Me". We will be talking about ways in which we stay healthy and personal hygiene in school e.g. the food we eat, washing our hands, drinking water, managing ourselves and belongings. Whilst we are doing this we will be finding out about each other's interests, and families.

The children will investigate numbers of special significance and begin counting, recognising and ordering numbers to 5 and then 10. We will be singing songs and making up games to help us with these skills. The children will be taking part in many finger gym activities in order to exercise their fingers for dexterity in mark making and writing. We will be working towards a good pencil grip and correct letter formation in order to write their names and sounds.

The classroom is designed to encourage self-initiated learning, and we follow the interests of the children and bring the learning to them. There are also group activities to target specific next steps to move children forward in their learning. We also have whole class carpet time for stories and whole class teaching.

Home work – Children will be asked to revise the sounds and tricky words they have been learning in class. They will have a set of numerals to recognise, play games with and order at home.

Reading - During this first week, the children will receive their first Little Wandle non-word reading book. The children will have read this book in class with their teachers. Please read this book 3 times, exploring the pictures together and sharing ideas. At the front of the book there is guidance on the activities and questions you can ask. These reading sessions should be recorded in their reading diary with your comments on how your child enjoyed the book. Your child will come home with a Sharing Book of their choice, which is read by you, to your child. These books will be changed as regularly as you have shared them at home. (Please remove anything else from the book bag).

Book Bags - We ask that children do not bring toys into school but can put a small key ring on the book bag to help them recognise their own bag.

Snacks and drinks - The school will provide fruit, water and milk, if requested, for your child. Please bring a water bottle your child can recognise and refill.

Merits – Merits can be earned for following the Golden Rules, being brave, trying new things, completing an individual target and anything to be proud of.

Golden Time – Children are encouraged to follow the Golden Rules so they can enjoy their reward on a Friday afternoon.

PE Kit - Children should have their PE Kit in school all week and it will be sent home at each half term for a wash. This term they will enjoy Gymnastics on Thursdays.

Tapestry – Please add any 'wow' moments from home to Tapestry and we will share these in school. A wow moment is when a child reaches a particular milestone in their development e.g. using a knife and fork, riding a bike, sharing with a sibling etc.

We look forward to working with you. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us: By phone 01794301286, Via Tapestry or email us at adminoffice@broughton.hants.sch.uk

Kind Regards,

Mrs Hudgell