

Meet the Teacher – Information for Parents of Squirrels Class

Who will be teaching my child?

- Teacher: Mrs Amanda Catchpole
- Teaching Assistant: Mrs Cindy Pilcher
- PPA Cover: Mrs Stevens and Toby

What does my child need in school?

Stationery: To ensure all children have the right equipment in school and to support parents with costs, we are providing children with all the stationery they need in school. You do not need to provide your child with any stationery.

Wellies and Coats: All children require both wellies and waterproof coats in school. We will be going out to play whatever the weather and using the field all year round. We do have some secondhand wellies and coats available by asking the office.

When does my child have PE and what do they need?

PE days for Badgers are on Mondays and Tuesdays unless specified

The children wear PE kits to school on PE days.

- House coloured T-shirt (this does NOT need to have a school logo)
- Black leggings/ shorts/ tracksuit trousers (grey or navy will also be fine!)
- School jumper/ cardigan
- For cold weather, including non-PE days, children can wear a plain, dark coloured fleece
- Kit will be provided for inter-school tournaments
- Teachers will also be wearing smart PE kit
- Branded T-shirts can be purchased from myclothing.com if desired

What will my child be learning about this term?

The main topics being covered this term are –

Maths-place value and shape

Science-Human Survival-How we as humans stay alive: food, exercise, germs etc

Geography- All about Easebourne: houses, maps and our routes to school

History-Castles: Is Cowdray a castle?

IT- What is IT? And uses of IT

Art – Trip to Art Gallery

RE- Understanding Christianity- The good news that Jesus brings Forgiveness and the story of Zaccheus

Our Key Texts in English will be- In Our Hands/If All the World Were/Poetry/The Nativity

Further information is available on this term's curriculum overview sheet attached which is on the school website.

What does the class timetable look like?

There is a lot to fit in during a week!

The school day starts at 8.50am and children should be in the classroom by this time so we can get going quickly.

There is play time from 10.20 to 10.35 and lunchtime from 12.00 to 1.00pm.

The school days end at 3.20 for all children except Reception who finish at 3.15pm. Older siblings of children in year 1 and 2 can be released from the same exit. Please let us know so we can send them to wait in the library.

An example class timetable is attached – please be aware that this can change on a weekly basis depending on what is going on and it is only a guide.

How can I support my child at home?

Reading – We encourage you to enjoy books with your child as often as possible. Our aim is to develop a love of reading and books. Children will bring reading books home. Please feel free to log in your child's reading record.

In key stage 1 the children will bring home books that they have been reading in their groups in school. These are matched to the phonics they are learning and are fully decodable. They will be familiar with the text and will enjoy showing you that they can read it. They will also bring home a Reading for Pleasure book from the library to share **with** you. These will be changed once a week in our library session on a Friday.

Other Homework.

Spelling- practising common exception words sometimes called tricky words on Spelling Shed or on paper if preferred

Maths – Numbots to practise addition and subtraction fluency

Sometimes there will also be some topic work to share and talk about

What Trips and Events are planned for this term?

We have drawn up a schedule for trips and events this year and this will be sent out to you.

This term there will be a trip to Pallant House in Chichester plus local walks

When will we have forest school?

Squirrels will have Forest School in the Spring Term

How can I help?

- We rely on the goodwill of our wonderful volunteers to ensure activities such as school trips, forest school and swimming can go ahead. We also welcome volunteers to support with listening to readers.
- Have a hobby, interest or talent that you think children would enjoy? Would you like to run an after-school club?
- Thank you for all your support. Please get in touch if you want to volunteer. We will need to complete a safeguarding check (DBS) for anyone volunteering in school.