

Welcome to Squirrels Class



Who is in our Class?

Class Teachers:

Mrs Johnson – teaches on a Monday and Tuesday and is in school as the school SENCO on a Wednesday and Thursday.

Ms Osborne - teaches in class on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Class Teaching Assistant:

Mrs Clarke – is in class everyday

Coming to school

- **Squirrels class time for drop off is 8.35am but we will be by our classroom door from 8.30am. Children can come straight into class to wash hands and start their morning task.**
- **We take the register at 8.45am so you need to be in school by then or children will be marked as late.**
- **If you need to speak to one of us we are around in the morning but it is much easier if you send us a message on Dojo or pop in after school as mornings are always very busy!**
- **Pick up time for Squirrels class is 3.25pm and the children will come onto the playground with the teacher.**

What do I need to bring with me?

Please provide your child with a named water bottle as we encourage children to drink water throughout the day.

Book bags can be the traditional burgundy book bag or can be a ruck sack that can hang on their peg.

PE bags can now be brought into school and left on pegs. We will send them home at the end of each term to wash.

Our PE days are every Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

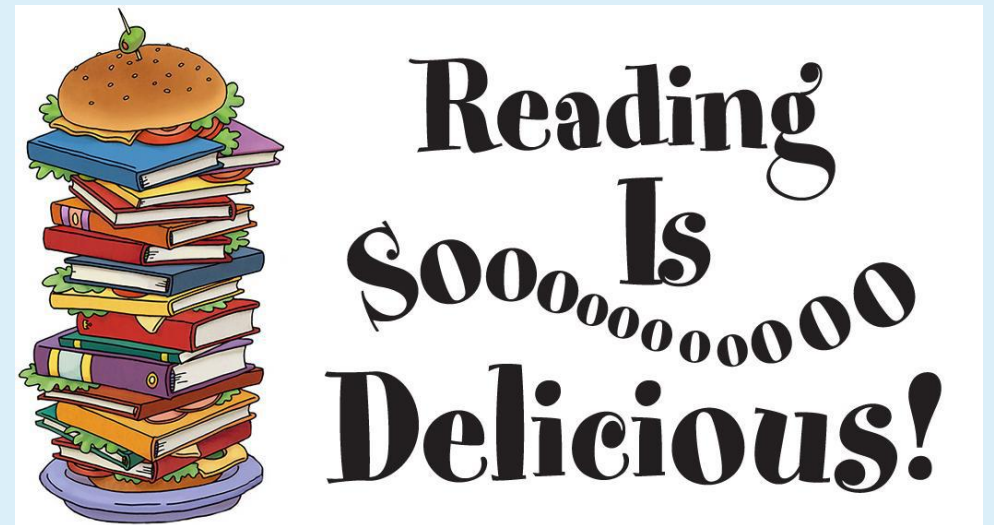
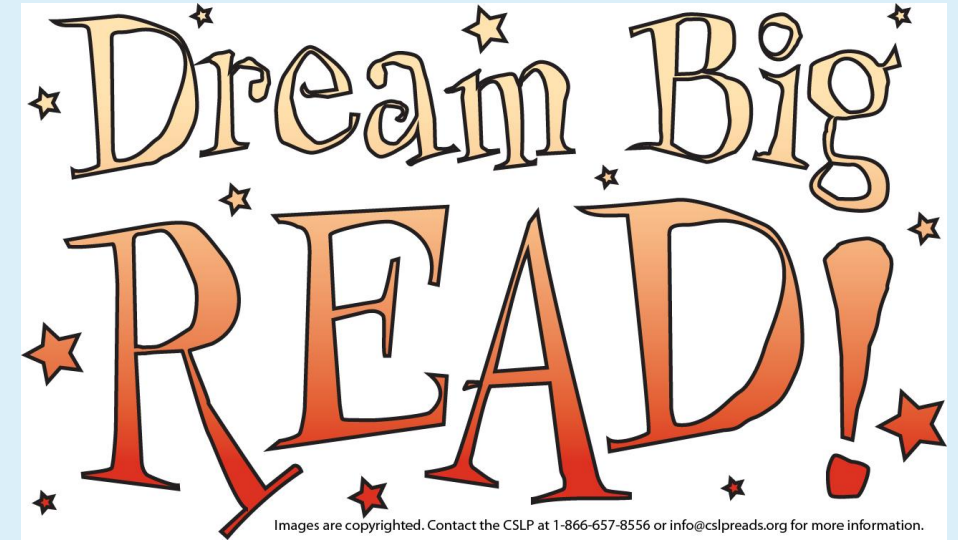
PE kits consists of:

- Their coloured PE t-shirt
- Black or burgundy shorts / leggings / joggers
- School jumper / cardigan / fleece
- Trainers



Reading Books

- Children will now get a new reading book each time they finish one.
- They can change it everyday if they need to.
- Books & reading records need to be brought in everyday so we can update them when we hear children read.
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- Children who read regularly at home make more progress and develop stronger literacy skills. We can't emphasise enough how important reading at home is.





Why Your Child Can't Skip Their 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight

James

reads 20 minutes per night,
5 times per week



Travis

reads only 4 minutes per night
...or not at all



In one week:

100
minutes of reading



20
minutes of reading



In one month:

400
minutes of reading



80
minutes of reading



In one school year (9 months):

3600
minutes of reading



720
minutes of reading



By the end of eighth grade:

28,800
minutes of reading



5760
minutes of reading



- Which student would you expect to read better?
- Which student would you expect to know more?
- Which student would you expect to write better?
- Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary?
- Which student would you expect to be more successful in school and life?
- How do you think each student will feel about himself as a learner?



GREER GENIUS

We would your child to read to an adult every night where possible. If you are unable to do this, why not share a book together!

WHY READ 20 MINUTES AT HOME?

Student A Reads	Student B Reads	Student C Reads
20 minutes per day.	❖ 5 minutes per day.	❖ 1 minute per day
3,600 minutes per school year.	❖ 900 minutes per school year.	❖ 180 minutes per school year.
1,800,000 words per year.	❖ 282,000 words per year.	❖ 8,000 words per year.
Scores in the 90 th percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 50 th percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 10 th percentile on standardized tests.

hey start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6th grade, Student A will have read for equivalent of 60 school days, Student B will have read for 12 school days, and Student C will have read for 3.

(Nagy and Herman, 1987.)

WANT TO BE A BETTER READER? SIMPLY READ.

Spellings

- Spellings will be set on a Friday.
- These spellings maybe spellings linked to their phonics and some maybe the year group's common exception words.
- We will test the spellings on Wednesday.
- Please encourage your child to practise spellings in their spellings books.

Year 1 and 2 Common Exception Words						
Year 1			Year 2			
the	they	one	door	gold	plant	clothes
a	be	once	floor	hold	path	busy
do	he	ask	poor	told	bath	people
to	me	friend	because	every	hour	water
today	she	school	find	great	move	again
of	we	put	kind	break	prove	half
said	no	push	mind	steak	improve	money
says	go	pull	behind	pretty	sure	Mr
are	so	full	child	beautiful	sugar	Mrs
were	by	house	children	after	eye	parents
was	my	our	wild	fast	could	Christmas
is	here		climb	last	should	everybody
his	there		most	past	would	even
has	where		only	father	who	
I	love		both	class	whole	
you	come		old	grass	any	
your	some		cold	pass	many	

Reading buddies

In Squirrels Class we will be sending home a reading buddy with each child.

We will also hold a special I Love Reading evening where children are invited back to school for a bedtime story.

More information will come home about our reading buddies & evenings in the next few weeks!

Please encourage your children to read to their reading buddy and share pictures of them on the Class Dojo page.



Maths Monkey

- The Maths Monkey will go home with a child who has shown resilience and perseverance within our maths lessons over the week.
- The Monkey will go home on a Friday and will need to be returned the following Tuesday (so that he/she can be put in quarantine until the next visit).
- Please encourage your child to teach the monkey new maths skills and share this in the book sent home.



Homework

Homework will go out once a term and is a 'Pick and Mix' style homework.

We are keeping our fingers crossed to invite all parents in to school to share all the wonderful work. If this is not possible we will share this work via the Class Dojo page. We'll keep you updated.

We are looking at numbers to 100 and looking at how many tens and ones different numbers have.

E.g. $76 = 7 \text{ tens and } 6 \text{ ones}$

Can you choose some numbers and show me how many tens and ones they have?

Can you tell us about all the good things you enjoyed about lockdown and then tell us about the things you didn't like in lockdown. We can share these together as a class and talk over your answers.

Essential Homework

To be done EVERY DAY!

Read for 10 minutes

Learn and practise your spellings.

Practise your $2 \times 5 \times 10$ tables and use maths rockstars

Could you draw / paint a picture of your garden. Can you spot any microhabitats where different creatures like to live?

Squirrel Class

Pick and Mix Homework

Term 1

Remember you only need to choose 2/3 of the activities

What can you make from a leaf?

Can you collect a range of different leaves from your garden or the woods and make a collage? You might make a picture, a character or just a pattern.

Can you write about your summer holiday and tell us all about your favourite things you did.

You could write it as a diary, a poster or even make a PowerPoint.

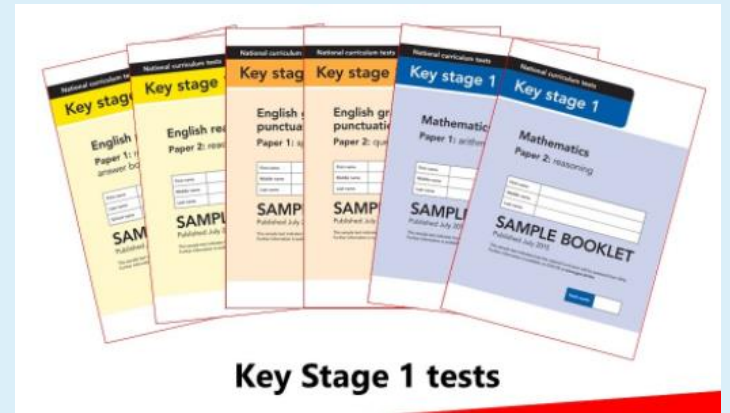
In Science we are going to be looking at food chains.

Can you show me you understand what a food chain is and demonstrate how they work?

Computing - You will need to log on to Purple Mash & look for the 2do. This term it is an art activity. You have been set a challenge to create a soundscape picture of a farm and all the animals you would see on a farm. When you have finished you can hand your work in online.

All work to be returned by Monday 21st October and we will add photos of pieces to our Class Dojo page.

SATS



As far as we know SATS tests will be in May 2022.

We will meet later in the year to discuss this and give you more information on these assessments.

Please don't worry about these as we make sure the children are as relaxed as possible about them and they are not at all scary (in fact most children have a brilliant week as we have lots of treats and complete lots of fun activities!)

Phonics Screen

Children usually sit the phonics screen in Year 1 in June.

However due to Covid 19, all Year 2 children will be sitting the phonics screen in Autumn Term. As we know more information we will keep you informed and will make sure all children are prepared.

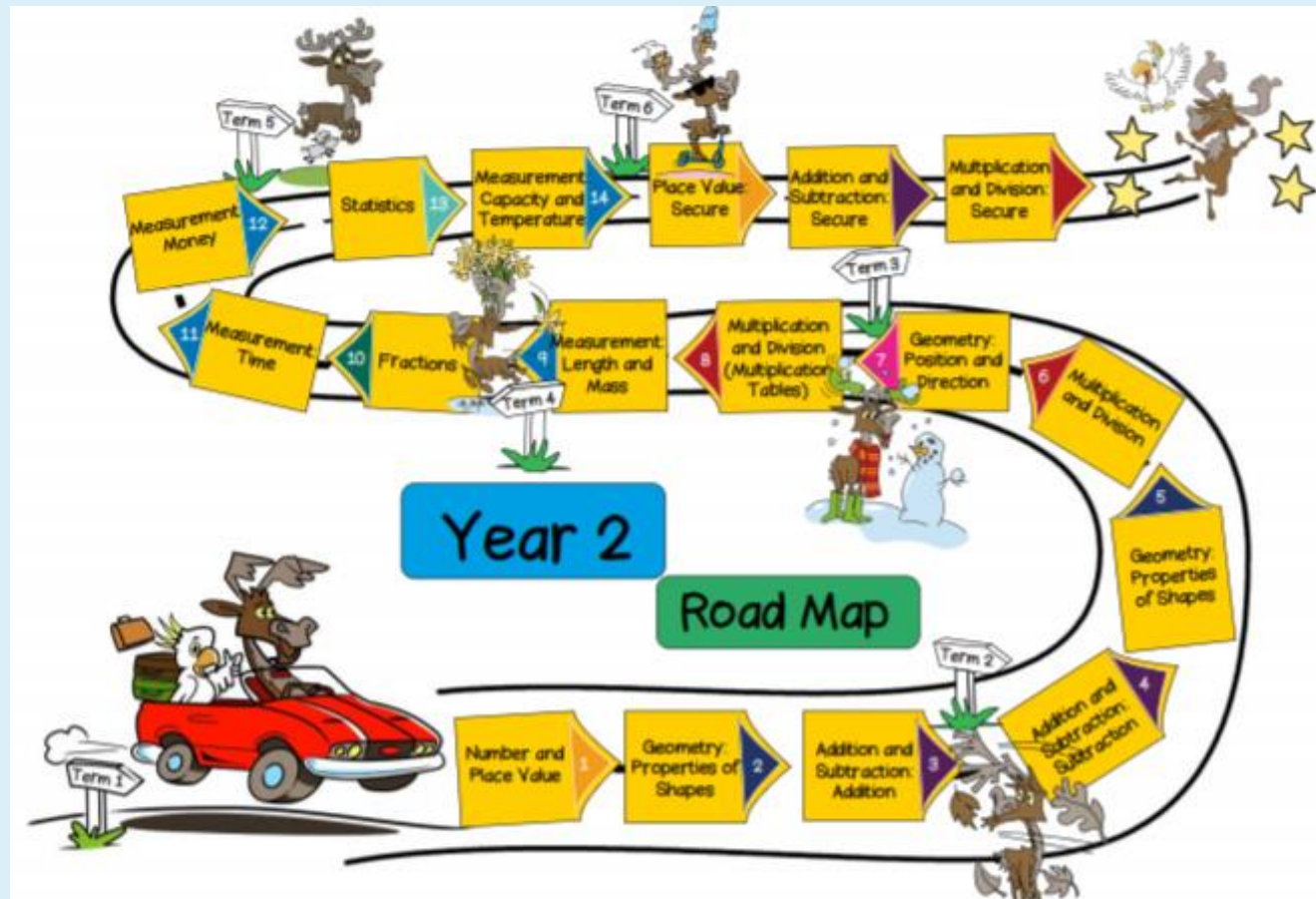


Maths

Our maths learning follows a clear road map for the year.

This highlights all the skills we cover.

This year we have adapted our learning journey to take into account some of our missed learning.



Maths



All children have a TT Rock Stars account
– we will send home their logins and password.

Maths – key ideas

Addition

How can you find the answer?

Use your fingers to help you
 $3 + ? = 10$



Use objects to help you count
 $5 + 4 = ?$



Use a bead string
 $13 + 9 = ?$



Count along a number line
 $12 + 6 = ?$

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20



Subtraction

How can you find the answer?

Use your fingers to help you
 $10 - ? = 8$



Use objects to help you take away
 $15 - 7 = ?$



Use a bead string
 $21 - 8 = ?$



Subtract back along a number line
 $20 - 11 = ?$

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20



Multiplication

How can you find the answer?

Count in steps of twos, fives and tens (forwards and backwards!)



Use objects to help you multiply
 $5 \times 3 = ?$



Draw groups or an array
 $4 \times 5 = ?$



Repeated addition
 $5 \times 5 = ?$



Use a number line
 $4 \times 2 = ?$

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



Division

How can you find the answer?

Share objects to help you divide
 $8 \div 2 = ?$



Draw groups
 $15 \div 5 = ?$



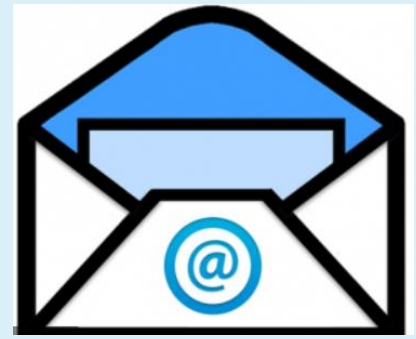
Repeated subtraction
 $12 \div 2 = ?$



Use a number line
 $20 \div 5 = ?$



Communication with Staff



If you have any questions, worries or concerns you can email us at: Squirrels@haydonwick.swindon.sch.uk and we will either reply via email or a telephone call.

You can also contact us using a message Class Dojo.

You can also pop in to school to speak to us again now but as mentioned afternoons are much easier!