

Red Squirrels Newsletter Spring Term 2019



Dear Parents,

Although we are well into January already, I would still like to say welcome back and Happy New Year to you all.

After a successful and busy autumn term, things aren't about to slow down in Red Squirrels class and we have already got off to a flying start with lots of wonderful homework pieces being presented for our current topic of the Stone Age.

In order to complement our topic, in English we are basing our work for the first part of the term around a book called 'Stone Age Boy' and our class reading book is 'Stig of the Dump'. Please ask your child what they enjoy or don't enjoy about these books, reminding them to give reasons to support their answers.



Children will continue to receive spellings on a Thursday. These will correspond with their phonic or support for spelling work and will be assessed on the following Wednesday during a dictation session.

Your child has homework to complete for our Stone Age topic, please ask them about this and help them if they need it. Please encourage them to do this at home but they will have the opportunity of attending homework club if they need to do it during school time. We have been learning times tables in class so if you have any spare time, please test them on these, especially the 4s, 8s, 3s and 6s.

Please ensure that your child brings their reading book, record and bag every day so they are ready to read to an adult. We would appreciate it if you would aim to share the book with your child every day.

Your child will be taking part in PE on Mondays and Thursdays and they will be taking part in gymnastics and capoeira. Please make sure your child brings in appropriate kit.

Further information about the focus of each curriculum area can be found below.

Yours sincerely

Miss Alston

Curriculum Area	Learning Focus
Literacy	<p>Narrative – Recounts, stories with a historical setting, creating settings, characters and plots.</p> <p>Non-fiction– We will be learning about types of writing that give information to the reader and creating our own linked to our Stone Age topic.</p>
Maths	<p>In line with our new focus on maths mastery, we will spend the first half term solving problems involving multiplication and division. After half term we will be focusing on fractions and decimals.</p>
Science	<p>Rocks: Testing hardness, absorption, uses of rocks and exploring fossils are formed</p> <p>Sound: specifically pitch, volume and how sound travels.</p>
History	<p>We will be finding out about man’s early history by discovering what life was like during the Stone-age and the Iron-age.</p>
RE	<p>Christianity; Inspiration, influence and the impact of belief. We will start by looking at Christian beliefs the children’s own beliefs before exploring modern inspirational believers.</p>
Art	<p>The children will be exploring and developing skills in drawing, painting and textiles in Art this term</p>
ICT	<p>We will be continuing work from the new computing curriculum, focusing on programming and debugging.</p>
Music	<p>In music this term Red Squirrels will continue to explore and develop their skills with Mrs Baines on a range of instruments.</p>
PE and Games	<p>Children will be doing gymnastics and learning capoeira from two outside coaches.</p>
Geography	<p>Geographical skills and fieldwork – using compass points, grid reference, symbols and keys to build knowledge of the UK and wider world.</p>