

Squirrel Class

Welcome back and a happy New Year to you and your families. Next week, the children will be introduced to our learning theme for this half term 'I wonder where the Dinosaurs went?'. Throughout this theme, we will be focusing on History and Art, along with our usual learning of English, Maths, Phonics, PE and Computing. Mrs Hawes will continue to teach Music, RE and PSHE with the children.

We also welcome Miss Parrington – a student teacher who will be teaching your child from now until the end of the academic year.

In English, the children will be experiencing Julia Donaldson's 'Tyrannosaurus Drip'. The children will be making predictions and writing descriptions about the main character and setting.

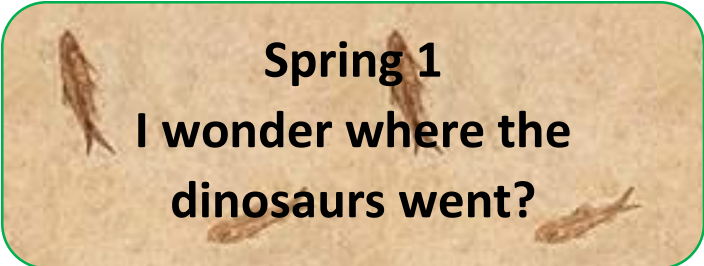
Phonics - You may be aware that it is a statutory requirement for all Year 1 pupils across the country to take part in a Phonics Screen check. This will be happening in June. I will be delivering an information afternoon nearer the time for parents.

In Maths, the focus for the first half term will be place value. We will be working with numbers up to 50 or challenging ourselves with numbers up to 100. We will also be continuing to embed our knowledge of addition and subtraction using two – digit numbers up to 50.

Reminders:

PE will be on a Thursday this half term. We will be focusing on gymnastics.

The children are expected to wear the correct PE kit (navy/black jogging bottoms or shorts and a plain white t-shirt). Please ensure that all kit is named. We kindly ask that all long hair is tied back and that earrings are taken out.



Spring 1 I wonder where the dinosaurs went?

In History, we will be learning about the life of Mary Anning and why she is remembered today.

In Art, your child will be learning about texture. We will be using different objects to create texture in clay. We will then learn the skill of coiling.

How to support your child at home:

- Reading daily
- Providing real life contexts to support their understanding of addition and subtraction using practical, concrete resources.
- Spending quality time with your child engaging and talking about their learning.

Special Dates:

4th February- Number Day
(more details to follow)

16th February - Last Day of Term

Additional information:

Secret Readers:

I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all of the adults who have taken part in our “Secret Readers” so far. It has been a great success and the children cannot wait to find out who our mystery guest is each week.

We are continuing to have Secret Readers every **Tuesday afternoon** between **2.40pm – 3.00pm**. If you would like to be a mystery guest then please let us know and we can sign you up.

I wonder where the Dinosaurs went?:

To support your child even further within their new theme then you could:

- Talk to them about what they already know about animals, including dinosaurs.
- Talk to them about the similarities and differences about the different dinosaurs.
- Talk to the them about carnivores, herbivores and omnivores.
- Make a fossil.
- Become an archaeologist and investigate bones and fossils.

