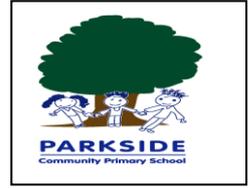




PARKSIDE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL
SQUIRREL CLASS LETTER
TERMS 3 & 4



DATE: Friday 10th January 2020

Dear Parents/Carers, welcome back and Happy New Year! I would just like to say thank you for all the wonderful Christmas gifts and good wishes and hope you are feeling rested and ready for another busy term. Our topic for Term 3 is 'Will you read me a story?' I would like your child to read for 10/15 minutes every night to really develop their fluency. Please support your child by reading together everyday and discuss what you have read. It would be wonderful if you could also make reading the focus of your bedtime routines by reading a bedtime story. Parents are the best reading role-models so please encourage your child to read at every opportunity; reading is a window into a world full of glorious imagination!

Term 3 topic is: **'Will you read me a story?'**
Our topic 'WOW' will be a trip to Canterbury Library and the Beany Institute. I hope that we can arrange for library cards for all the children so that they can make full use of all the wonderful books within. We will be identifying local landmarks and mapping our local area in Geography and exploring significant British Artists in History and Art. Our key text is the Traditional Tale 'Little Red Riding Hood' which will link to the wonderful picture book 'Mr Wolf's Pancakes' by Jan Fearnly.

Curriculum focus:

Phonics: Year R: Phase 2/Phase 3 (letter formation, blending sounds for reading and segmenting sounds for spelling.) Year 1: Recapping Phases 2-4 and Phase 5. We will focus on alternative spelling patterns, split digraphs and developing our decoding skills to distinguish between pseudo/real words.

Maths: Year R: to 5 (count to 5 saying the name in a stable order, forwards and backwards). Year 1: Addition & Subtraction to 10 (Add and subtract one digit numbers to 10, including zero, solve one step problems that involve addition and subtraction, using objects and pictures).

Science:

Everyday Materials - investigating properties of materials and classifying.

Term 4 Topic is: **'Are we there yet?'** Our 'WOW' trip will be a train ride to Margate to visit Garlinge Primary School for a stay and play afternoon. We shall be boarding a train for a mini adventure to experience the excitement that a journey to somewhere new gives us. Our key text will be 'The Train Ride' by June Crebbin, which has a wonderful rhythmic structure.

Curriculum focus:

Phonics: Year R: Phase 3/4 (focuses on reading and writing words containing two adjacent consonants). Year 1: Recapping phase 3-4 and Phase 5. We will practise reading and spelling words with adjacent consonants and words with newly learned graphemes and reading and spelling polysyllabic words.

Maths: Year R: Number and Place Value to 10 (Children begin to learn that numbers can be made by combining smaller numbers including zero. They use real life objects to explore the composition of numbers to 10. Year 1: Place Value to 20 (Count to twenty, forwards and backwards, beginning with 0 or 1, from any given number; count, read and write numbers to 20 in numerals and words and solve one step problems).

Science:

Materials - Describe the simple physical properties of a variety of materials.

We will be holding a 'DEAR TIME' session for Parents/Carers of pupils in Squirrel Class on Thursday 6th February from 2pm – 3pm. Please do come along and read with your child. If you are not able to come then these please encourage another member of your family to come and enjoy some quality reading time together.

Our Class Assembly will take place at 2.30pm on Tuesday 11th February in the school hall. Parents/Carers are welcome to come along and support so please spare the time if you can.



Squirrel Class were awarded a number of 100% Attendance Certificates last academic term. We hope that this will continue and that all children will be in school every day. It really is essential that children are regular attenders as low attendance has a huge impact on a child's learning. With this in mind, please ensure that your child is in school by 8.40am to start promptly at 8.50am each day. Thank you.

We take PRIDE in our school and uniform so please ensure that your child comes to school each day wearing the correct uniform. The school logo on jumpers reminds children that they are all part of the Parkside Community so please remember to purchase them from the school office if you haven't already. Also, a quick reminder that children need to wear appropriate weather proof shoes, not **pumps or trainers**.

Golden Rules

We will respect and value every member of our community and welcome every visitor.

We will take ownership for our learning and be responsible for our own choices.

We will try our best in everything that we do and allow others to do the same.

We will keep ourselves and others safe and move safely around the school.

We will respect the school environment and learning resources.

Dates for your diary:

Tuesday 21st January – Squirrel Class visit to Canterbury Library.

DEAR TIME session for Parents/Carers of pupils in Squirrel Class Thursday 6th February from 2pm – 3pm

Reading/phonics parent session: in Squirrel Class Tuesday 28th January 3-3.45 pm.

Squirrel Class Assembly: 2.30pm on Tuesday 11th February in the school hall.

PE is on Monday and Wednesday. Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school on these days and that all **jewellery is removed**, including earrings!

For homework; please read every day at home as little and often is the key. Please support your child learn to read and spell the tricky words we send home. Please send in the reading file daily and comment in your child's reading record after reading. Books will be changed on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

REACH for the Stars

Resilience

Effort

Aspiration

Courtesy

Honesty



Children in Squirrel Class are given free water bottles and wash and fill them every day. Please do not send in bottles of fruit squash or juice as sugary drinks are not suitable throughout the day. If your child has a packed lunch then they should have a separate drink bottle along with their healthy packed lunch.

Packed lunches should consist of a sandwich (cheese or ham), low sugar drink, yogurt and at least two pieces of fruit. No chocolate or sugary treats please.

A reminder that ALL children should come to school suitably dressed for the weather conditions. This means wearing a school jumper/cardigan, waterproof coat and sensible, waterproof shoes. Wellingtons are not to be worn all day! Children should bring other shoes to change into once in school and should always have a warm jumper to wear. Please ensure all items of clothing are labelled!