

Squirrels Class Newsletter

Summer 2025

This term we are really focusing on good learning behaviours making an impact on progress and attainment. We are going to be working really hard getting ready for Year 3.

Adults in Year 2 are as follows:

Mrs Christine Stewart – teacher Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday Miss San Mishra – teacher, Thursday, Friday

Mrs Hynard – teaching assistant Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

If you need to contact us about anything (no question is too silly), you can catch us at the door after school with any quick queries, or you can email us.

Mrs Stewart [cstewart@tewincowper.herts.sch.uk](mailto:cstewart@tewincowper.herts.sch.uk) Miss Mishra [smishra@tewincowper.herts.sch.uk](mailto:smishra@tewincowper.herts.sch.uk)

What to bring each day

* Water bottle (named)
* Book bag (no rucksacks)
* Reading folder (record and book)
* Coat, sun hat (weather dependent) Please label ALL clothing!

Drop off and collection.

Drop off – between 8.35am and 8.45am, at the side gate. Children walk through the playground to their classroom.

Please try to be on time, because we often do one to one reading during the first part of the day.

Collection – at 3.15pm, from the Gazebo on the playground.

Lunches and snack

Each morning, children choose between red (meat), green (vegetarian) and yellow (jacket potato) options, or packed lunch from home. They can mix and match school lunches and packed lunches throughout the week.

Fruit snack is provided by the Government in Year 2. Children may bring in their own snack, but this must be a piece of fruit.

Home learning

Home learning will be set on Tuesdays and expected the following week. Youa re under no obligation to complete it but it will help you get an understanding of what we are currently learning in class. Please continue to hear your child read daily.

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Reading supports writing, imagination, vocabulary, empathy comprehension, communication…to name but a few things!

Please aim to do the following every day:

* Listen to your child read and record this each time in the reading record so we can see what they have been reading. A detailed comment each time is not necessary.
* Read to/with your child every day and enjoy the experience together! This could be picture or chapter books, but could also include recipes, comics, letters, magazines, newspapers, etc.

Children will be reading in school (either with an adult or independently) a few times a week, so please make sure they bring in their reading folders *every* day, or they might miss their reading slot.

Library

Our class library slot is on Tuesdays. Children will be able to choose a book from the library to take home, share and enjoy. Please ensure that this is back in their book bag each Tuesday so they can swap it for a new book. If they would like to keep it for longer than one week, they have the option to do this.

Class reading book.

Our first whole-class reading for pleasure book will be, ‘The Magic Finger’ by Roald Dahl. We will be enjoying some of this as a class each day. If your child would like to buy a copy of the book, or borrow one from the library, so they can follow it in class as we read, they are welcome to. This is not essential, though!

PE

PE in Year 2 will take place on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Please make sure your child has the Tewin Cowper branded t-shirt and jumper. Children must come into school dressed in the new PE kit on those days. If you have ordered your child’s kit but it has not arrived yet, please let them wear the old kit for now, and then use the new kit as soon as you have it.

This term PE lessons will be outside and after half term there will be swimming. Please ensure your child has clothing appropriate for the weather, as well as suitable trainers.

Music

We will be covering the Kapow topics of ‘Musical Me’ focusing on pitch and ‘Myths and Legends’ exploring rhythms.

Maths

We follow the NCETM and White Rose scheme, which aims to foster a deep understanding and mastery of mathematical concepts. We begin the term looking at 2D and 3D shape then move onto fractions. We will also be completing time, money and statistics.

You can support your child with their maths fluency by practising things like:

Telling the time on analogue and digital clocks.

* 2-, 5- and 10-times tables – skip counting forwards and backwards, as well as knowing times table facts.
* Having opportunities to count and understand the value of money.

One Minute Math’s is a brilliant app that gives children quick-fire questions to practise their maths fluency. It is free to download and use. [https://whiteroseeducation.com/1-](https://whiteroseeducation.com/1-minute-maths) [minute-maths](https://whiteroseeducation.com/1-minute-maths)

Summer Term: Learning overview

PE

This term the children will be learning skills within net and wall activities and striking and fielding activities. The second half term we will be swimming on a Monday,

2.15-2.45 and on Wednesday 1.30-2.00. We will also be getting prepared for Sports day later in the term.

English

In English we continue to follow the Hertfordshire Essential writing scheme. This term we will be looking at writing to entertain using the book ‘Julian is a Mermaid’ by Jessica Love, then after half-term moving onto instructions, ‘How to look after a Woolly Mammoth. Then finally looking at poetry, similes and free verse.

In Phonics we are completing Level 6. Please look at the weekly phonics bookmarks sent home.

In guided reading we use decodable books at the correct level to teach in small groups. This happens every week in 4 sessions. We do shared reading and comprehension activities alongside these sessions.

Ring

Science

Our first unit is ‘Plant Growth.’

* Recall that seeds have all the necessary parts inside for plants to grow.
* Recall that seeds need water and warmth to germinate.
* Recognise that light is required for healthy plant growth.
* Sequence the stages of a plant’s life cycle.
* Recognise the importance of healthy plant growth.
* Describe the influences humans have on plants in the environment. The second unit looks at making ‘Connections in Science’ linking all of our learning together.

History

In History this term the children will be

developing their knowledge of events beyond living memory and reinforcing their chronological understanding by looking at the monarchy past and present and comparing them.

Geography

Learning about human and physical features of the coast- lines in the UK. Name and locate the seas and oceans surrounding the UK in an atlas. Explain the location of UK coasts using the four compass directions.

**Computing**

Learning about coding using a programme called ‘Scratch Junior’. This involves understanding what an algorithm is and creating their own clear and precise algorithms. We will also be revisiting online safety and ensuring children know how to keep themselves safe online.

RE

In RE this term, we will be looking at the religion Islam and learning about the annual pilgrimage ‘Hajj’. We will also be discussing how Christians have a relationship with God through Bible stories.

French

We just use some French basic vocabulary in Year 2 greetings etc. It is not a set subject until KS2.

PSHE

This term we will be looking at ‘Being my Best’ and ‘Growing and changing.’

Design and Technology

New topic ‘Pouches’.

Learning how to sew a running stitch, ready to design, make and decorate a pouch using a template.

Art

This term’s focus is ‘Sculpture and 3D clay houses’ where the children will be exploring how clay can be joined and shaped. They will produce a clay tile using the skills learnt.