



Squirrel Class Curriculum Newsletter – Spring Term 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back after half term. We hope you enjoyed a wonderful holiday. Please find below a summary of Squirrel classes curriculum for this term along with some general reminders.

English

Our English lessons this year will follow the National Curriculum, covering reading, writing, spelling, punctuation, and grammar. This half term, pupils will produce a diary recount where they will focus on key features of a diary before finally writing their own independent piece based on the story of the Wetzel family who travel across Germany in a hot air balloon. This links in beautifully with their history topic on flight.

Maths

We are continuing to work on our key number skills in Squirrel class. We have started looking at multiplication building towards a formal method for our Year 3 children. The use of resources will be used alongside to ensure deep understanding of the concept. We will then link in with division before finishing the half term with subtraction. We will continue to have regular morning maths to continue to strengthen arithmetic skills.

P.E.

This half term, Squirrel Class will have PE every Monday and Friday. One session each week will be a dance focus where the children are building towards their end of term Comberton College's online dance competition. The theme of the dance is 'Wonder' and the song that they will be dancing to is called 'Dynamite' by BTS.

Children should come to school dressed in their PE kit on these days. Please make sure they are dressed appropriately for the weather, as well as being prepared to go outside as the weather improves.

Homework

English and **Maths** homework will be handed out each Friday to be returned the following Wednesday. They will have a Maths and English book where we expect the children to complete a different section each week known as a workout.

Reading- In Year 2 and 3, children are expected to read 5 times a week. When appropriate, we would like you to read with your children and discuss their book with them. Please fill in the children's reading records for every time they read.

If you have any questions, please do come and speak to us as we are always happy to help.

Year 2/3 Curriculum Topics – Spring Term 2026



History

Our upcoming History of Flight unit gives the children chance to explore how humans first learned to travel through the sky. They will discover the achievements of the Montgolfier brothers, who created the first successful hot-air balloon, and learn how the Wright brothers designed and flew the world's first powered aircraft. The unit also introduces Bessie Coleman, a pioneering aviator who overcame significant barriers to become a celebrated pilot. Through stories, discussion, and hands-on activities, pupils will build an understanding of how flight has developed over time and why these inventors and explorers continue to inspire us today.



Computing

In Computing, children are learning to create simple interactive quizzes using ScratchJr. They explore sequencing, events, inputs, outputs and basic debugging while designing their own quizzes with characters and backgrounds. As they test and improve their programs, pupils develop logical thinking, problem-solving and creativity, and gain confidence in how instructions can control digital devices.

Key vocabulary:

Program, ScratchJr, Block (code block), Sequencing, Event, Input, Output, Command, Debug / Debugging, Algorithm, Instruction, Interactive, Test, Loop, Sprite, Background / Scene, Question, Answer, Score

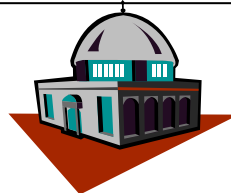


Science

In Science, children will learn how plants grow and what they need to stay healthy, including water, light, temperature, nutrients and space. They will explore the different parts of a plant and their functions and observe how seeds and bulbs develop over time. Through hands-on investigations, pupils build their enquiry skills while developing an understanding of how plants grow and survive.

Key vocabulary:

Plant, Seed, Bulb, Root, Stem, Leaf, Flower, Fruit, Germination, Shoot, Bud, Seedling, Growth, Life cycle, Water, Light, Temperature, Nutrients, Soil, Space, Air



DT

In Design and Technology, the children are learning how to join and secure materials when creating textile and other practical projects. They will explore different fastening types—such as buttons, zips, press-studs, Velcro, and toggles—and learn why each one is used. As they design, make, and evaluate their own functional products, pupils develop creativity, problem-solving skills, and fine motor control. This unit helps them understand the importance of planning carefully, testing ideas, and improving their work to create durable and effective finished items.

Key Vocabulary:

Design, Make, Evaluate / Evaluation, Product, Material, Textile / Fabric, Function / Functional, Purpose, User / Audience, Plan / Planning, Test / Testing, Improve / Improvement, Fastening, Button, Zip / Zipper, Velcro, Toggle, Loop, Stitch / Sewing, Seam, Join / Joining, Measure / Measuring,

RE

In this RE unit, what are the best symbols of Jesus' death and resurrection at Easter? Children explore the Easter story in an age appropriate way, learning about the key events of Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Pupils discover how Christians use symbols such as the cross, the empty tomb, light, candles and new life (for example, eggs) to remember Jesus' death and celebrate his resurrection. Through discussion, storytelling and creative activities, children reflect on what these symbols mean to Christians and consider which symbol they think best represents the Easter message of hope and new life. The unit encourages thoughtful questioning, understanding of Christian beliefs, and respectful sharing of ideas.

Key vocabulary:

Easter, Holy Week, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, Cross, Crucifixion, Resurrection, Tomb, Empty tomb, Palm Sunday, Symbol, Christian, Church, Bible, Pray, New life, Hope, Light, Candle, Celebration, Forgiveness, Salvation, Believe, Worship.



Music

"I Wanna Be in a Band" is a lively and engaging unit of work that introduces children to rock music while developing their singing, listening and performance skills. Through this unit, pupils learn about pulse, rhythm and pitch by exploring classic rock-style songs, playing classroom instruments and performing together as a group. Children build confidence in singing with expression, keeping in time with the music and understanding how different instruments contribute to a band sound. They also develop key musical vocabulary and begin to appraise music thoughtfully, sharing their opinions about what they hear.

Key vocabulary:

Pulse, Beat, Rhythm, Pitch, Tempo, Dynamics, Volume, Melody, Chorus, Verse, Hook, Riff, Lyrics, Audience, Performance, Rehearse, Compose, Improvise, Accompany, Instrumental.

French

In the Les Fêtes unit, children are introduced to French vocabulary and customs related to different celebrations and festivals. Pupils learn to name and describe popular French celebrations, including birthdays, Christmas, Easter, and other traditional events, using simple phrases and greetings. They practise listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills through songs, games, role-play, and short dialogues, helping them to use key vocabulary in context. The unit also encourages cultural awareness by exploring how French people celebrate special occasions, allowing children to compare these traditions with their own experiences. Overall, Les Fêtes develops confidence in using French for everyday communication and celebrates the fun and diversity of festivals.