

### **Science:**

To start off this term, we are beginning our new unit on plants. This coincides perfectly with the beginning of spring and the start of the growing season. In this unit, the children will be learning about the structure of plants, their ability to photosynthesise and the nutrition that they need for growth. During this unit, the children will also be growing their own plants as an enrichment to their learning.

**MFL** – This unit covers 'Time' and explores days of the week, months of the year, sharing birthday details and talking about events that happened yesterday, today and will happen tomorrow!

After half-term, we will learn to count in 10s, count up to 100 and begin to talk about our local area and features.

### **Maths**

We will begin our maths learning this term revising multiplication and division with 2- and 3-digit numbers. We will also master formal methods for calculation, and continue to practise mental strategies using the four operations of number. We will learn and revise place value, which has an impact on learning in all areas of maths and we will also cover decimal numbers, measurement, fractions and geometry. It is essential that children continue to learn, and gain a faster recall of, their times tables. We will visit these often in class, but we also encourage children to use TTRockstars at home to support further progress. Number bonds are also a very important area of maths that helps when calculating with all four operations. Number bonds to 10 are a great place to start, but the Gold Standard is number bonds to 100 – something to practise on the drive/walk/cycle into school. 😊

### **RE Hinduism What does it mean to be a Hindu in Britain today?**

We return to exploring what it is like to be a Hindu in Britain today for the first half of the term, consolidating our understanding of how Hindus show their faith and how stories and deities 'help' them in everyday life. After half term, we will explore the meaning of Salvation and discover the Easter story, discussing why Christians call the day Jesus died 'Good Friday.'

### **Music**

Children will be taught to explain what musical theatre is, categorise songs as action songs or character songs, select appropriate existing music for their scene to tell the story of a journey and perform in time with their groups.

### **Homework**

At Burescombe, all classes will continue with electronic delivery of homework. We continue to use the website Study Ladder. If accessing the homework online will present a problem, please let the admin team in the office know as we will be able to supply paper copies of homework. In addition, it is important that your child is reading, independently or with an adult, daily. To support this, children are encouraged to continue to use EPIC READER, which has a plethora of reading material available, or read books at home. Spellings will be set on a Friday and will be tested on the following Friday. Similar to homework, we are continuing with electronic delivery for spellings using the website Spelling Frame. We will also continue to use <https://trockstars.com/> and <https://readtheory.org/auth/login> in class – you're welcome to access these websites at home with your child too. Thank you for your continued support. 😊

# SQUIRRELS CLASS

## Spring 2023

## The United Kingdom

### The UK

#### **Theme**

In this unit, children will take a look at the geography of the UK – from the physical features of mountains, rivers and seas to the man-made administrative regions and counties. They will find out how the UK has changed over time, looking at how London grew and how the population of the UK as a whole has changed throughout the course of history. Children will also research the geography of the UK: the names of the seas around the UK, capital city locations and names as well as investigating the location of major rivers too.

#### **PSHE, Character Education & Citizenship**

We will continue to discuss and reflect upon values and virtues in Character Education lessons and Collective Worship. The values & virtues that we investigate and discuss will support us in our goal of becoming 'Inspiring Changemakers'. In PHSE, we will start the new year by thinking about our goals and dreams for the future and what actions we can take to help ourselves and others. They will discuss how it feels when dreams don't come true and how to cope with / overcome disappointment.

### **Computing**

**SCRATCH:** This unit is designed to help children continue developing their skills in writing their own algorithms as well as editing and debugging existing codes. New skills are introduced to structure code and animate characters and scenes, gradually building to create a short, animated story.  
**KODU:** This unit will allow the children to continue to build their understanding of coding and the impact that code can have, such as creating games, web pages and animations.

### **English**

This term, we will again be starting with a poetry unit to allow children to draw out descriptive words and phrases that can be used in any genre! In poetry, children will investigate and create kennings and haikus, playing with language for different effects. In non-fiction, children will have fun recounting mysterious events and exploring the award-winning "Real-life Mysteries: Can you explain the unexplained?". They will investigate the use of adverbs, headings and paragraphs and even plan and write a mysterious hoax report. In fiction work, children will read and enjoy a selection of Anthony Browne books. They will explore how illustrations add to the story, revise pronouns and learn how to use conjunctions to add descriptive detail.

Spellings will continue to be set weekly on Spelling Frame with a test on Friday in school. Children are encouraged to read and practise their spellings a minimum of three times a week.

### **Art and Design**

Children will learn about the genre of environmental art. They study how artists create artwork that addresses social and political issues related to the natural and urban environment. Children work collaboratively to create artwork with an environmental message.

### **PE**

Premier Sports will deliver PE lessons on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. Please ensure PE kits are in school on a Monday; we will send them home for washing on a Friday. Children will begin with gymnastics and continue after half-term with the dance element of the curriculum.