



## Squirrels, Moles and Badgers Autumn Term 2024

### **More about our topic...**

We will begin the term with an in-depth study of *Voyagers* for two weeks, focusing on the discoveries of Matthew Flinders and George Bass. We hope to inspire the children's curiosity about the history of our local area and the wider world.

Our main topic for the rest of the autumn term will be *Expedition Europe!* We shall gain knowledge of the geographical location and physical geography of the countries in Europe. The children will develop understanding and appreciation of diverse communities within this continent. We will then use our knowledge of the countries of Europe to compare them with our local and national area.

In addition to this, we will be using maps, atlases, and digital technology to further our learning and broaden our knowledge. We will focus on the importance of maps as well as how to understand the key features such as the points of a compass and co-ordinates to draw our own routes and maps.

This is an incredibly fascinating topic, and we aim to make it a memorable one! Through cross-curricular learning we will partake in some exciting activities. Make sure you continue to keep an eye on our web pages to see the fantastic learning taking place!

### **English**

Our class text for the autumn term will be *Iron Man* by Ted Hughes. It is about an iron giant and a boy named Hogarth, who work together to try and save the planet from a terrifying creature...

Reading for pleasure and enjoyment will lie at the heart of our English curriculum. Children will be involved in guided reading, using a wide range of texts, linked to our topic. They will take part in group discussions and will be encouraged to share their own views and reading interests. Through discussion and questioning comprehension skills will be developed, enabling children to increase understanding and appreciation of literature.

Children will have the opportunity to find out more about Benjamin Zephaniah in a poet study as well as use their writing skills to write diaries and stories with familiar settings linked to our geography work.

Opportunities within all areas of the curriculum will be made available for children to develop their spoken language through discussion, drama, and presentations.

### **Science**

In Science this term, we will be initially looking at 'Forces and Magnets.' Through this unit, we will be focusing on several scientists, including Sir Isaac Newton. We will also learn and test the forces around us that impact our lives. Following this, we will be looking at plants. We will observe and test what will happen if a plant does not get everything it needs.

### **Maths**

Maths will be taught as an individual subject and will continue to adhere to the curriculum objectives. Teaching will enable children to become fluent in arithmetic as well as being able to reason and problem solve. Our Maths lessons in the autumn term will focus on Place Value and Addition and Subtraction. We will also begin to look at Multiplication and Division. Pupils will be extended at every opportunity to ensure their potential as mathematicians is achieved.

### **Take home task to support work in school**

To prepare for our new topic, it would be brilliant if the children could find some fascinating facts about the countries of Europe. This could include capital cities, flags, geographical features, food, or anything else about and European country of your choice! These can be presented in a medium of their choice – a model would be especially good! They will need to be prepared to present and talk about their work to the rest of the class.