

**TEAM SQUIRREL  
MEET THE TEACHER**

Mrs Browne

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2025

## WHAT WE WILL COVER:

- What have we been doing so far?
- Important rule!
- What's next?
- Reading, reading and more reading...
- Reading records
- Tricky words
- Proud clouds
- What can you be doing at home?
- Any questions for me?

## WHAT HAVE WE BEEN DOING SO FAR?

- Promoting independence and confidence/willing to try
- Setting a clear solid routine
- Expectations in classroom, school and home
- Communication and listening skills
- Building positive relationships
- Problem solving... **What if? How about? I wonder?**
- Playing around with phonics and maths!

## IMPORTANT RULE!

- Please do not teach your child to write in capital letters.
- When practising to write their names, ensure they have a capital at the beginning and then lower-case letters.
- *Formation mats are not that great either!*

## WHAT'S NEXT?

- Focused teaching times, small group work.
- New learning topics and to learn different ways of same learning.
- Consolidation, repetition and problem solving.
- Experiences, guiding and nurturing, confidence building, questioning.
- Children's interests and continuous provision.
- Team building and positive communication when dealing with situations.
- Independence, resilience and sharing our opinions and understanding others.
- Purpose for writing and reading in our everyday world.

## READING

- Reading is *not* just done once a week with an adult.
- Reading is *not* just for our school reading books.
- Benchmarking – Hooray! *Please do not ask me to benchmark your child* 😊... here's why...

# BY THE END OF YEAR R, CHILDREN SHOULD..

## Early Learning Goals

### Comprehension

- Demonstrate understanding of what has been read to them by retelling stories and narratives using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary.
- Anticipate (where appropriate) key events in stories.
- Use and understand recently introduced vocabulary during discussions about stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems and during role play.

### Word Reading

- Say a sound for each letter in the alphabet and at least 10 digraphs.
- Read words consistent with their phonic knowledge by sound-blending.
- Read aloud simple sentences and books that are consistent with their phonic knowledge, including some common exception words.

### Writing

- Write recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed.
- Spell words by identifying sounds in them and representing the sounds with a letter or letters.
- Write simple phrases and sentences that can be read by others.

**IMPORTANT**  
It is not a tick box list  
to achieve all  
statements to reach the  
ELG! It's a best fit.

## READING RECORDS

- Do not feel you need to write in the book every time you read with your child. Weekly is fine to share a proud moment, development in reading or a concern.
- Reading book are changed weekly - Mondays.
- *Phonics levelled and a read together book. They do not need to be read in one go! Repetition is good for them.*
- Please ensure the reading wallet is brought into school **everyday**. Letters will go home in them to.
- There are some great, extra activities in the reading records to support with phonics understanding, segmenting and blending.

## TRICKY WORDS

- Tricky words rockets are in your child's book bags.
  - Tricky words are words which cannot be sounded out. Unfortunately, they are words they just need to know.
  - Please go through these words when you can with your child.
- Top tip! They need to see them in different print and within texts not just on the rockets else they just remember the pattern.*
- It is a big help towards benchmarking!

## PROUD CLOUDS

Celebrate the great things being done at home by telling us about it at school.

Write on a cloud so we can share it at school.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO AT HOME TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD?

- Read, read and read some more! It doesn't have to be school reading books. Can they recognise tricky words, help with CVC, CCVC words?
- When out and about can they find you 10 cars? 5 road signs?
- Go out on adventures, long walks, rainy walks windy walks. Talk about what you see and why things are happening.
- Keep a look out on the website to see what we are up to for the upcoming weeks.
- Being independent by making their own breakfast, getting dressed themselves.
- Give them the seven second rule!

ANY QUESTIONS?