



April 2026

Dear Parents & Carers,

We are looking forward to an exciting Summer term of learning, exploring and fun in Squirrels class. Please remember to take some time to look at what we have been learning about on our class page of the school website and in our floor book.

Morning Routine

Our school day begins at 8:40am and the doors close at 8:50am. If you arrive after this time, please go to the school office. During the first part of our morning, the children engage in 'Busy Fingers' activities, which support the development of their fine motor skills and play an important role in enabling them to use a comfortable grip with good control when holding pens and pencils.

Summer Term Topics

Summer 1: Come Outside! – Our theme for the first half of term is 'Come Outside', with the enquiry question: What do living things need to grow? We will soon receive a delivery of caterpillars, which we will watch grow into beautiful butterflies, as we learn about minibeasts and their life-cycles. We will also plant green beans and nurture them as they grow.

Summer 2: Commotion in the Ocean – After half term, our learning will be themed around the ocean. We will be learning about life under the sea, the effects of plastic on sea creatures, how to travel in and on water, sinking and floating and pirates.

More information about our topics can be found on our [Knowledge Organiser](#) which is on the school website. This can be found on our class page under the section 'Curriculum Information'. As well as explaining the 7 different areas of learning and detailing the learning themes and skills we will be covering during the half term, the knowledge organisers offer ideas of how to support your child further at home.

Please also remember to take a look at the ['Top Tips'](#) sections on our class pages with activity ideas to support progress in different areas.

Phonics

We will be continuing Phase 2 phonics sessions using the Essential Letters and Sounds scheme followed by St Peter's. Please help your child to find objects that begin with our 'sound of the week' around your home. We will teach rhymes to help children recall each sound. During the Spring Term, we learnt the following single letter sounds - s, a, t, p, i, n, m. This term we will introduce further single letter sounds in the following order: d, g, o, c, k, e, u, r, h, b, f, l. Please click on the following link for more information: <https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/reading-schemes-oxford-levels/essential-letters-and-sounds/>

PE and Music

Music and PE lessons alternate every Friday. Please ensure your child is wearing appropriate clothing for being active on this day (top with shorts/trousers/leggings and trainers). This term we will be developing our fundamental skills such as running, coordination, throwing, catching and kicking a ball.

Sun Safety

It is important during the summer months that we make every effort to keep children safe in the sun. This includes wearing clothing which cover the shoulders, shoes that are safe to run, jump and climb in and bringing a sunhat to school each day.

Please also remember to send your child in with a named water bottle every day, now that the weather is getting warmer. If needed, please apply a high factor sun cream (at least factor 30) to your child before school.

Local Spring Walk

We are hoping to go on a local Spring Walk to the Watercress Beds Nature Reserve to observe the weather, wildlife and plants before half term. More details to follow.

A Few Reminders

Please make sure everything is labelled, from jumpers to shoes, to avoid them being misplaced. It is not possible for us to keep track of every child's clothing, particularly if it is not labelled.

Please ensure your child is not bringing any of their own toys into class. If they have a toy with them on the way to school, please can we ensure this is given back to the parent/carers to take home before your child comes inside.

Snacks are provided by the school (milk and fruit) so children do not need to bring any food to school unless staying for lunch club or the afternoon session run by Children 1st Pre School. Packed lunches must follow the school's healthy eating and nut free policy as we do have children in Nursery with allergies. Please note that only water is allowed in the children's water bottles.

Dates For Your Diary

Local Spring Walk – Tuesday 12th May 9.30am

Monday 4th May - Bank Holiday. School closed.

Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May - Half term.

Monday 1st June - INSET Day – School closed.

Wednesday 10th June 11:00 – 11:35 - EYFS Sports Day. Parents and carers can come and watch. Children to come to school in clothing for being active in on this day.

Thursday 9th July - Transition day. Children to meet their new teacher and visit their new classroom.

Thursday 23rd July - End of term.

We recommend that you regularly check the [school calendar](#) on the school website for any other events that may occur throughout the term. We will also use Google Classroom to send updates.

Communication

We will be continuing to use Google Classroom to communicate with parents and pupils. Please speak to the class teacher if you have still not been able to access Google Classroom and would like some help in doing so.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of the team at pick up. You can also send a message to the class email - squirrels@stpeters.herts.sch.uk. We will endeavour to reply to you as soon as possible, but please be aware that we will not be able to respond to emails during teaching hours. For any urgent communication, to report an absence and/or inform the school that a different person is collecting your child, please contact the office using the following email address - mychildtoday@stpeters.herts.sch.uk.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mrs Woolmer-Green, Mrs Milton and Mrs Clements