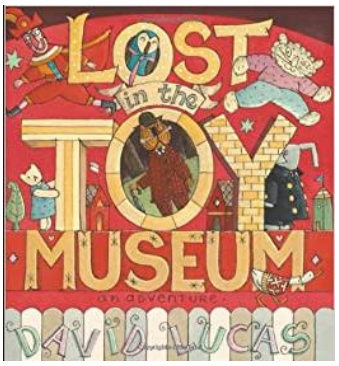
‘Toys’
Squirrels Newsletter Term 2 2026/2027

Dear Parents,

Welcome back, we hope you have all had an enjoyable half term. We will be starting our year with a topic all about toys. The children will be learning about the history of toys and finding out about the changes that have occurred over time and why. Alongside this they will be learning about the materials that are used to make toys and also design and make our own toys.

Some of the key texts we will be using for our learning are:







Reminders

- Please can you make sure your child brings in a **named water bottle and a book bag** every day.
- Our PE days are **Monday and Wednesdays.** Please ensure your child wears their PE kit on these days.

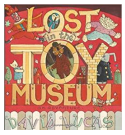
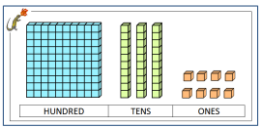
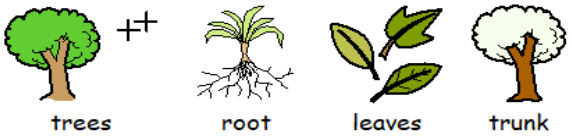
Home Learning

If you would like a learning activity to complete at home during this term with your child, you can choose from one of these activities:

- Ask a family member about the favourite toy they had when they were younger, why was it their favourite?
- Play a board game with members of your family, how has how we play games changed?
- Have a go at making your own board game.
- Design a new toy, what would it be like?

‘Toys’ Learning Map Term 2 2026/2027

What are we learning this term?

<table>
<tr><td>Liteacy</td><td>Instruction writing
</td><td>Narrative
</td><td>Letters
</td></tr>
<tr><td>Maths</td><td colspan="2">Number and place value
</td><td>Shape
</td></tr>
<tr><td>Science</td><td colspan="3">
Plants: How do seeds and bulbs grow into healthy trees?</td></tr>
<tr><td>History</td><td>Toys from the 20th century
</td><td>Toys: How was childhood different when our grandparents were our age?</td><td>Comparing toys
</td></tr>
<tr><td>Music</td><td colspan="3">What music is about toys? What is a Nativity?
 </td></tr>
<tr><td>computing</td><td></td><td>Digital imagery</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>PSHE</td><td></td><td>Valuing difference</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>DT</td><td colspan="3">Making toys
  </td></tr>
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Home learning:

Reading	Please read with your child **at least three times a week**, even if it is just for 5 minutes. When reading with your child, please acknowledge the fact that the book has been read by **recording this on Boom Reader.** During reading sessions, please discuss the story with your child and ask them questions about what they are reading. These questions will help to develop their understanding of what they are reading as comprehension and discussion are key reading skills in Year 1 and 2. Squirrels are encouraged regularly to change their books regularly, please can you help remind your child when their books need changing.
Phonics Year 1	Attached to the newsletter you will find our Weekly Phonics overview- please read through these words with your child at home to supplement the Phonics teaching we will be completing in class.
Lexia Year 2	Your child will have a Lexia log in all set up, if you need reminding of this then let me know. They need to complete this at least 3 times a week, even if it is just for 10 minutes. Once we have your child's log in we will share this with you.
Maths	Maths homework will be set from a new CPG book. It will be set on a Friday and need to be returned on the following Friday. The children can bring it back in whenever they have finished it during that week and put it in the 'finished homework' box. Your child is also going to get a NumBots log in that they can do at home, this will be shared at parents evening.
Spelling	We will not be setting weekly Spellings. **Year 1:** please practice spelling their Phonics words from the weekly Phonics sheeets. **Year 2:** please practice the attached spellings from Little Wandle, we will also be practising these in class. See below the speller's toolkit we will be developing with Year 2 pupils this year. **Autumn 1** – 5 weeks: Phase 5 review **Autumn 2** – 5 weeks: Bridge to spelling **Spring and Summer** – 20 weeks: Spelling units

Helping to enrich our topics

It is always great to have items that support our topic, so if anyone has any items that may help us with any of the work above that we could borrow, we would love to see them. We will have a topic-based 'show and tell' weekly on a Friday, see below the slot for your child.

Week 1 – Friday 6th of November – Year 1 boys

Week 2 – Friday 13th of November – Year 2 girls

Week 3 – Friday 20th of November – Year 1 girls

Week 4 – Friday 27th of November – Year 2 boys

Thank you for your support.
Mrs Tucker, Mrs Luckhurst and Mrs Reynolds