



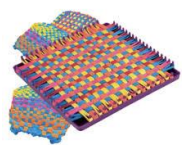
## Badgers Class Newsletter - Term 2

### Our Curriculum



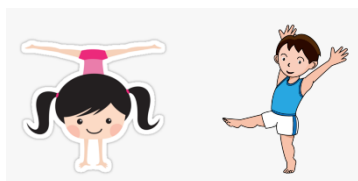
This term, we are continuing our 'European Adventures' topic in humanities. We will be comparing the UK to the different European countries in terms of climate, settlements and landscapes.

In Science, our theme is 'Sound'. Through lots of practical investigations, we will explore the way sounds is made by vibrations and find out how the pitch and volume of sound can be changed in a variety of ways. We will also be looking out how we hear sounds, the structure of the ear and how those who are unable to hear communicate.



Our art this term is a textile-based unit where the children will be learning to weave. They will be looking at how different patterns can be made by weaving and then work to create individual pieces using their weaving skills.

In Computing this term we will be looking at repetition and loops within programming. The children will be planning, modifying and testing commands to create shapes and patterns using LOGO, a text-based programming language.



PE will continue to take place on TUESDAY afternoons. This term, our topic is 'Gymnastics'. Please ensure children come into school on this day with the correct PE kit. Girls must have their hair tied back and should not wear earrings on this day please.

### Mathematics

At the end of Y4, we have the Government multiplication check, so learning our times table is a huge focus this year. We work on times tables for early work at the start of each day. Times tables form the basis for so many other areas of maths (eg: division, fractions, percentages) so the sooner children know their tables, the easier it is for them to grasp other areas of maths and make links.



It is important that pupils are able to recall tables facts quickly - within 3-5 seconds. We generally learn tables in a specific order - 2,10, 5's, then 3,4,8's and then 9, 11's (both have easy patterns to help with learning) and then finally 6,7's. It is important that pupils are secure and have quick recall of a table / group of tables before moving on. All children need to be practising their timetables at home - tasks are set each week on a Monday morning. Login details for TT Rockstars can be found in the front of their yellow reading record books.

Look out for the Band Battle between houses which will begin next week - it would be good to have lots of Badgers class on the leader board. You will be given a copy of your child's 'Heat Map' produced by TTR which will show the tables that they need to work on the most at Parents Evening this week. This can also be viewed on your child's account online at any time.

## English



Our new Spelling Shed scheme has been going well. We have been exploring a different spelling pattern each week in class and completing a range of activities based on this. Just a reminder that new spellings are issued every Tuesday in the form of a worksheet with the list of words to learn and some suggested activities to complete at home to help them consolidate their learning. The sheet is purely for use at home and does not have to come back into school each week. If this sheet does not make it home, you can also find the whole of the term's spellings listed on the Badgers class page of the school website. The children will be tested on their words the following Monday. All pupils have a Spelling Shed account (log in details can be found at the front of their yellow reading record) which they log into at school each week however they should be logging in at home as well as it gives them access to online games that can also support them in learning their words each week.

Accelerated Reader is working well in class with all pupils reading for at least 15 minutes each day and having the opportunity to take their quiz and change books when needed. The children need to read widely within the range and don't go up a level each time they read a book - the quiz gives an indication of your child's comprehension level and these can only be done in school. The aim is to score 100% in a quiz (this earns them 5 house points). If pupils are consistently scoring under 60%, they may be asked to select books at a lower range to ensure that they are understanding what they are reading, rather than just ploughing through books. They are aiming to keep their average above 85% across the term and merits are awarded for achieving this.



We have an Accelerated Reading session almost every day, when myself, Miss Chan and Mrs Turner hear children read individually, and we are also lucky enough to have a couple of additional adults who come in and listen to children read too. Please ensure that your child brings their reading book and reading record into school every day and please feel free to write in it whenever you read with your child at home too.

### Important dates for the diary

- \* Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> / Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November - Parents Evenings
- \* Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November - Individual School Photos (Kittle)
- \* Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November - Children in Need (more details from School Council very soon)
- \* Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas church service and Christmas lunch
- \* Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December - Class Christmas party

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to make contact via the school office.

Mrs Driscoll & Mrs Turner & Miss Chan