



## Welcome to Badgers Class Newsletter for Term 4

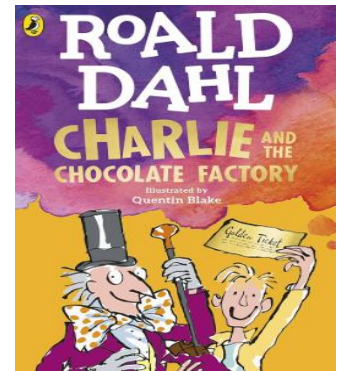
Dear Parents,

Welcome back to Term 4! We hope you all had a restful and enjoyable break and are feeling refreshed for the exciting weeks ahead. This term is always a busy and rewarding one, filled with new learning opportunities, special events, and plenty of chances for the children to shine. We are looking forward to building on the fantastic progress already made this year and working together to make this term both successful and memorable for everyone.

If you have any questions, I will be available after school (apart from Wednesdays) or please feel free to email the school office and they will forward the message on.

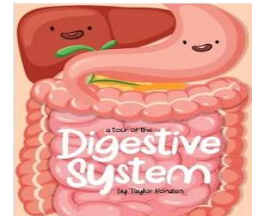
### **Our Curriculum**

We will be continuing our Humanities theme for Terms 3 and 4, European Adventures. We will continue our virtual trip across Europe, visiting more countries and finding out about their history, culture and climate. We will study each country in detail and comparing them to the United Kingdom. The children will extend their knowledge of the world so that they can name and locate the equator, northern hemisphere, southern hemisphere and Arctic and Antarctic circle.



We will start this term by reading A Drop in the Ocean- The Story of Water by Jacqui Bailey and using this information to write an explanation text. For the remainder of the term, we will be reading Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. We will be writing character descriptions, postcards and adverts to advertise a new factory. Finally we will be write a poem in the style of Michael Rosen's Chocolate Cake poem.

In Science, we will be studying the digestive system, finding out all the body parts and their functions and we will be doing an experiment to see how it works first hand. Next, we will look at teeth and the importance of good oral hygiene.



Long term homework is not set formally but if your child is interested in researching something related to our humanities or science topics, they are more than welcome to do so and share their findings with the class. This could be a PowerPoint, poster, pictures and facts or model, for example.

Further information about our curriculum can be found on the school website.

### **Mathematics**

For Maths, we use the Whiterose scheme of learning. We will begin this term by learning about length and perimeter. We will then be moving onto to our Fractions topic. We will be learning what fractions are, ordering and putting fractions on a number line, converting between improper fractions and mixed numbers and adding and subtracting fractions. We will be revising what the children have learnt previously and building upon this to work with numbers up to ten thousand.



Year 4 will have their National Multiplication Check towards the end of the year. Before the check, we will hold a parent meeting to give you all the relevant information. All children also need to be practising their timetables (using TT Rockstars). Login details can be found in the front of their reading record books.



All children also need to be practising their timetables (using TT Rockstars). Login details can be found in the front of their reading record books. The children will complete a minimum of one soundcheck, 5 Studio games and 5 Garage games each week.

This should take around 11 minutes and can be completed at home or at school. The children will receive 5 house points for completing them all and the whole class will receive 5 class points if they all complete their allotted sessions.

## **Weekly Spellings**

We use Spelling Shed to teach and practice spellings. They will have a 30 minute lesson every Wednesday which will focus on a spelling rule or pattern, followed by spelling activities throughout the week linked to the spelling rule or pattern being studied.

A list of the spelling rules/patterns will be sent home weekly with the children, sometimes along with optional activities for them to complete. The terms spellings will also be made available on the class page of the school website.

Each Tuesday your child will have a spelling test based on the spelling patterns from the week before. We may also include spellings from previous weeks as well as the Year 4 common exception words that we will also be practising in school. They will complete their test in spelling books which will be marked and then sent home for you to share. New spellings will be sent home each Wednesday to be practised during the week at home and tested the following week in school.

Pupils will also have a Spelling Shed account, that gives them access to the online games which will support them in learning the weekly spellings. We would like children to spend at least 10 minutes per week playing these games as it will really help strengthen their recall.

A Parent Guide is available here: <https://play.edshed.com/en-gb/login>

## **PE- Fitness- Our PE day for this Term is Friday**

Our PE topic this term will be fitness. We will be exploring the importance of fitness and the benefits of leading a healthy life style. We will be doing activities and playing games that specifically aim to increase speed, strength, co-ordination, agility, balance and stamina.

Please can you make sure your child has the right PE kit. No earrings are to be worn on PE days unless your child can take them out themselves, they will need a small pot to keep them safe. Our PE lessons will be inside this term but the children will still need to dress for the colder weather throughout the day. They can bring some shorts with them in their bag to change into if needed.

## **Reading**

In Year 4, the children continue to use the Accelerated Reading programme, where children have been assessed at the beginning of term, in order to identify a level in which they need to read at. They need to read within this range – they do a quiz on the book once they've read it and this gives us an indication of the comprehension. Quizzes can only be done in school. The aim is to get 100% in a quiz and so sometimes a child might be asked to choose a lower level based on their level of comprehension, rather than fluency alone.



We have noticed that a lot of the children are not reading at home, please could you try to encourage them as much as possible. Reading really does have a big impact on all their learning.



**Higham Primary School**  
Grow, Learn, Believe, Achieve

Please use the following link to sign up for email notifications for Home Connect. You will then receive an email each time your child completes a quiz in school. You will also be able to find out how they are doing with their termly reading targets. You child's login details are in their reading records.

<https://global-zone61.renaissance-go.com/studentprogress/homeconnect?t=6706259>

We have an accelerated reading session each day in class, so please ensure your child brings their reading book and reading record into school every day.

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

Kind Regards,

Miss Hipkiss