

Badgers Class **Spring Terms 2023** Curriculum Newsletter

Welcome back Badgers' parents and children! I trust that you had a restful Christmas break. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all the Christmas gifts and cards- I was very touched and appreciated them all. This newsletter gives an overview of all the learning that we will be undertaking during the spring terms.



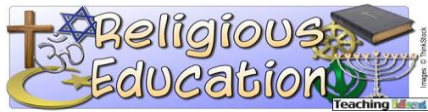
Maths



We will be studying maths topics that include:

- Multiplication and division
- Measurement and length
- Length and perimeter
- Fractions
- Mass and capacity (Y3 only)
- Decimals (Y4 only)

RE



The spring RE Units are:

GOSPEL

What kind of a world did Jesus want?

SALVATION

Why do Christians call the day Jesus died 'Good Friday'?

Science

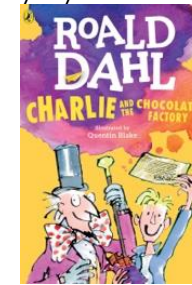
Our topic in the first term is '**Animals including humans- teeth, eating & digestion**'. This unit focuses on the digestive system in humans and animals and the functions of teeth. Children will learn more about herbivores, carnivores and omnivores in the context of teeth, digestion and the food chain. In addition, they will extend their understanding of food chains to more complex chains and food webs.

The topic in the second half of the spring term is '**Forces and magnets**'. The children will learn about forces, friction and magnetic attraction. They will learn about forces in the context of pushing and pulling, and will identify different actions as pushes or pulls. The children will work scientifically to investigate friction and will work in a hands-on way to identify magnetic materials. Furthermore, they will conduct an investigation into the strength of different types of magnet. They will develop their scientific enquiry skills, making observations, predictions and conclusions



English

In English, we will be undertaking writing units of work based on the core text – Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl.



We will be writing a 3rd person narrative where we will write a new chapter for Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. In this writing unit, we will especially focus on Dahl's use of narrative voice as well as his use of nonsense words for effect.

We will also create an explanation text about a chocolate or sweet machine. The children will be designing their very own machine before writing an explanation of how it works.

Later in the term, we will be performing poetry – Michael Rosen's chocolate cake and also studying the classic poem – The Jabberwocky by Lewis Carroll.

Spelling will be taught weekly in discrete lessons whilst grammar and punctuation will be taught within the English learning journeys.

Guided Reading will take place 3 times per week where the children will learn the skills of comprehending a text. We will spend quite a lot of time looking at poetry this term as well as our core text - Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.

Geography

The children will be learning about 'Where does our food come from?' The children will understand that the food we eat comes from many different places around the world. They will consider how land in both Temperate and Mediterranean climate zones is used to produce food and explain how land is used to produce food in the United Kingdom.



PE

In Term 3, the children will be focusing on their dynamic balance skills. They will be working on balancing on a line whilst performing heel to toe and knees up high movements both forwards and backwards. The children will also be improving their coordination skills whilst working with and handling different size balls. During this unit in PE, the children will also be developing their cognitive skills, identify what they and their peers are doing well and areas for improvement in their work.

In Term 4, we will be working on their sending and receiving skills. They will be exploring the different ways in which they can send and receive different sized balls to a partner. They will challenge themselves by trying to increase the speed in which they are able to send a ball.

Children will need to wear their PE kits to school on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays

MUSIC



Every Friday, the children will be having weekly **violin lessons** with our expert violin teacher Mrs Norriss.

In the first half of the spring term, we will be learning about **pentatonic melodies and composition**. Linked to the Chinese New Year, we will be revising key musical terminology, playing and creating pentatonic melodies, composing a piece of music and using layered melodies

In the second half of the spring term, we will be learning about **ragtime style music, Dixieland music and scat singing**. The children will create a jazz motif using a swung rhythm.

French

Our French topic for this term is 'Going Shopping'. The children will learn about the shopping experience in France. Children will learn specific vocabulary of fruit, vegetables and clothes. They will learn key phrases for asking the questions needed when going shopping. Next term, we will focus on the topic of 'Where in the world?' Here, the children will learn the key vocabulary related to countries/continents and animals.



ICT

Our Computing topic for the first term in Spring will be 'Programming'. We will use physical computing to explore the concept of selection in programming through the use of the Crumble programming environment.

During the second term, we will use tools within a database to order and answer questions about data. We will be creating graphs and charts from data to help solve problems



PSHE

Spring 1 topic-What keeps us safe?

Children will learn about how to keep their bodies protected and safe. This includes learning about the safe use of medicines, how cigarettes and caffeine can affect people's health and be able to react and respond if there is an accident.

Spring 2 topic – What are families like?

The children will learn that people who love and care for each other can be in a committed relationship (e.g., marriage), living together, but may also live apart. They will know that there are different types of family structures and recognize shared characteristics of a healthy, family life.

They will learn how to recognise if family relationships are making them feel unhappy or unsafe, and how to seek help or advice.

Forest School

Our forest schools lesson this term will link to one of our pupil passport activities – eat something you have grown. The children will be planting seeds, in order to grow their own vegetables. The vegetables will then be used next term in DT, where the children will prepare and cook them.



In the second half of the spring term, the children will be using the forest to enhance their history learning of the Mayans. They will be lashing sticks together to make a weaving frame like the Mayans did and also make Mayan clay figures.



HISTORY



In spring 2, the children will study the Mayans as it is a non-European society that provides contrasts with British history.

Homework

Monday – New spellings for the week are introduced on a Monday and the children will bring a poster with the key spelling words on. Spellings will be tested on Fridays.

Wednesday – Maths and English homework is set. It is due in the following Wednesday.

Reading –The children will receive a reading book each Monday. The children need to read 5 times per week. This needs to be logged in their reading journals. Please sign each entry to show that your child has read. The children on the Little Wandle Scheme will bring an extra book home on a Friday.

All reading record books and reading books need to be returned **every Monday** so that the reading records can be checked, and so that new books can be issued to the children. If the children have not finished their book because it is a longer novel, it will be reissued so that they can continue reading.



Design and Technology - COOKING AND NUTRITION

The children will be planning and cooking a meal using seasonal ingredients.

