

Badgers Class **Spring Term 2024** 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, cards and messages - 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 term.



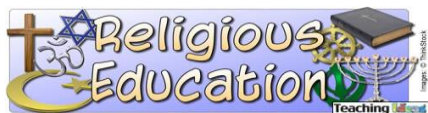
MATHS



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:

INCARNATION:

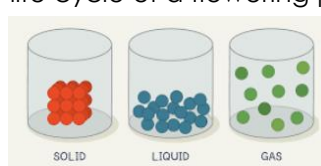
What is the Trinity?

SALVATION

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

SCIENCE

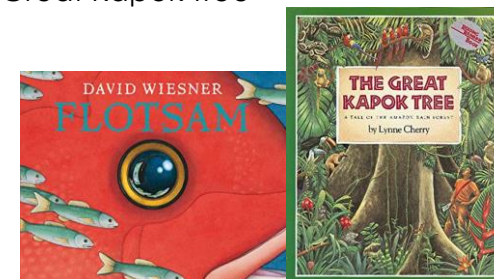
Our topic in the first term is **Plants (growth, function and lifecycle)**. The children will learn the names of different parts of plants and the jobs they do. The children will work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate what plants need to grow well, and will present their findings to their classmates. Furthermore, they will have a chance to predict what will happen in an exciting investigation into the transportation of water within plants. They will work in a hands-on way to identify the parts of a flower, and will explore the different stages of the life cycle of a flowering plant.



The topic in the second half of the spring term is **states of matter**. The children will learn the differences between solids, liquids and gases, classifying objects and identifying their properties. Furthermore, they will have the chance to find the ideal temperature to melt chocolate. They will explore in-depth how water changes state, exploring melting, freezing, condensing as well as a particular focus on evaporation. Finally, they will learn about the stages of the water cycle.

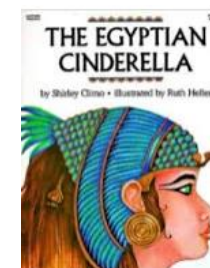
ENGLISH

In Term 3, we will be undertaking writing units of work based on the core texts – 'Flotsam' and 'The Great Kapok Tree'



Linked to 'Flotsam', we will be writing a **diary** text from the camera's point of view. Linked to 'The Great Kapok Tree', we will create a **first-person narrative** based on the wood chopper's perspective.

In Term 4, we will be writing **persuasive adverts** and **instruction texts** linked to the theme of Egypt. The core text for this theme will be 'The Egyptian Cinderella'.



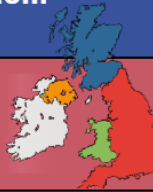
Spelling will be taught weekly in discrete lessons whilst grammar and punctuation will be taught both discretely and within the English learning journeys.

Guided Reading will take place 3 times per week where the children will learn the skills of comprehending a text.

GEOGRAPHY

The United Kingdom

What are the key geographical features of the UK, and my region?



In this unit, children will learn about the key geographical characteristics of the United Kingdom. They will discover the different countries of the United Kingdom and the regions within England. Children will explore the human and physical features of the UK, including the types of settlements, key topographical features and how types of land use have changed over time. Children will use maps and atlases to explore the UK and their local region while learning to use a compass, 4-figure grid references, keys and symbols.

PE

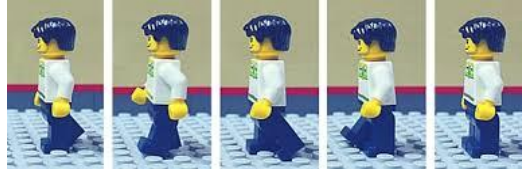
In terms 3 and 4, the children will be developing and applying their jumping and landing and static balance skills. Alongside this, there will be a focus on healthy competition, cooperative games and Personal Best challenges.



The children will also be participating in dance lessons which focus on 'tutting'. Tutting is inspired by Ancient Egyptian art, using the body to create geometric shapes and positions, such as boxes, and movements that predominantly use right angles. It generally focuses on the arms and hands and includes substyles such as finger tutting.

COMPUTING

In term 3, the children will use a range of techniques to create a stop-frame animation, they will apply these skills to create a story-based animation. This unit will conclude with learners adding other types of media to their animation, such as music and text.



During term 4, we will be creating audio media. In order to record audio themselves, the children will use Audacity to produce a podcast, which will include editing their work, adding multiple tracks, and opening and saving the audio files.

FRENCH

During term 3 in French, the children will be learning the French alphabet and then using this to spell words in French. We will also be learning new vocabulary linked to the topic 'colours'. We will practise saying and writing the different colours in French.

In term 4, the children will recap numbers to 20 in French and develop this further by learning to say, read and write numbers to 50. We will then be using these skills to help us learn the date and say when our birthdays are in French.



PSHE & RELATIONSHIPS

Term 3 topic - How can we manage our feelings?

The children will consider how everyday things can affect feelings, outline how feelings change over time and learn the importance of expressing feelings. They will learn to respond proportionately to, and manage, feelings in different circumstances and know how to access advice and support to help manage their own or others' feelings.

Term 4 topic – How will we grow and change?

The children will learn about puberty and how bodies change during puberty. They will consider how puberty can affect emotions and feelings as well as learning how personal hygiene routines change during puberty. Menstruation will be taught to Year 4 children only.

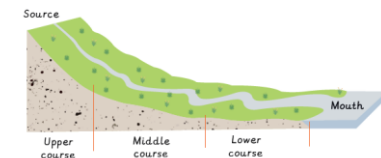
MUSIC

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

During the other weekly music lessons, the children will be learning - **Changes in pitch, tempo and dynamics (Theme- Rivers)**. For this unit, the children will be learning to listen to changes in pitch, tempo and dynamics and relate it to something tangible and familiar. Linking to the geography topic of rivers, the pupils represent different stages of the river through vocal and percussive ostinatos, culminating in a final group performance.

River course

We are making links between the course of a river and music.



ART

Term 3 - Sculpture -How can where you live impact you as an artist?

In this unit, the children will be using clay and will build on their knowledge and skills of sculpture and clay. They will begin to evaluate and analyse creative works using the language of art. The children will be looking at how artists in Mexico were influenced by their surroundings. They will be creating their own clay sculptures of a cactus in a pot.



OTHER KEY INFORMATION:

Weekly **PE lessons** will take place on **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays** – children should come to school dressed in their PE kits on these days. For safety reasons, earrings need to be removed and long hair needs to be tied back.

Those children that have been issued with a violin need to bring them every **Friday** for their **violin lesson** with Mrs Norris.



HOMEWORK



Monday

New reading books will be issued today. If the children have not finished their book because it is a longer novel, it will be reissued so that they can continue reading. Reading record books will be checked for 5 x reading entries. Children on the Little Wandle Scheme should bring their yellow reading records into school every day.

Wednesday

Maths and English homework will be set. It is due in the following Wednesday. Children should also go on their times tables rockstars account each week and spend time learning their times tables.

<https://play.ttrockstars.com>



Friday – Children on the Little Wandle scheme only – books will be issued today, they should be read at home and these books need to be returned on the following Monday.