

# Y4 Badgers Newsletter

Term 1 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 4. Hopefully your son or daughter has enjoyed their first few days and are looking forward to the rest of the year. The children seem pleased to be back and have been keen and enthusiastic to learn so far. I will be in school four days a week (Tuesday to Friday) and Mrs Fulton will teach them on Mondays. This term she will teach maths focusing on problem solving, reading comprehension and SPAG and then PE all afternoon. Tuesday and Thursday afternoons the children will be taught by Miss Raval: this term she will teach RE, music, history and PSHE. Our full-time class TA is Miss Raval; Mrs Brown will join us on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays. They will provide a wide range of support including interventions, focused teaching in small groups and extension activities.

## **Diary dates**

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September - Meet the teacher meeting @2.45pm

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September - Bentley photographs

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September - Macmillan coffee afternoon

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October - trip to Kent Life (more details to follow)

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October & Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October - Parent Consultations

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October - last day of Term 1

## **Year 4 Curriculum content**

### **Literacy**

The majority of our work this term will be linked to the Victorian themed text 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty. The children will complete a range of tasks including diary and letter writing, poetry and character based work. Other genres completed in Term 1 will include narrative (excuse letters), recount, information texts on Victorian workhouses and a story writing unit about an alien landing. We will also do regular spelling practice, grammar work and handwriting practice. Extended writing sessions will take place regularly to ensure we have a wide range of evidence to support on-going assessment of writing.

### **Numeracy**

Topics this term will mainly focus on place value: reading and writing numbers beyond 1000 and up to 999, 999; recognising the value of digits in numbers; ordering and comparing numbers; rounding to the nearest 10, 100 or 1000 and Roman numerals. We will also practise column addition and subtraction with 4 digits and will complete investigative and problem-solving activities, arithmetic sessions and times tables practice on a regular basis.

### **Science**

We will continue focusing on a different area of science each week with either a biology, chemistry or physics focus. Our lessons in Term 1 will focus on: parts of plants, food chains, evaporation and condensation, light, friction, earth's movement in space and rocks and soils.

### **Computing**

In computing the children will use a range of software such as Garage Band and Isle of Tune to write and perform their own compositions. They will also complete a unit of work on e-safety.

## History

For the first two terms we will complete a longer study on the Victorians. Work this term will include research on Queen Victoria, investigating a range of artefacts to learn about the past and what it was like to be a child in Victorian times. Please encourage your son or daughter to further their knowledge on the topic by completing any additional research or activities at home, which can then be shared at school. To enhance and support our learning further, a trip to Kent Life has been booked on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October - more details to follow in a separate letter.

## RE

Our first unit of work this year focuses on life as a journey: we will complete learning about Christian Baptism, Jewish Bar Mitzvah, marriage and Hindu views on the afterlife.

## Art

In art we will be focusing on the contemporary artist Sandra Silberzweig, completing colourful portrait work using chalks and pastel.

## Music

In music the children will be learning to play the recorder. Each child will be provided with their own instrument which will be sanitized before use and then kept in their tray.

## PSHE

In PSHE we will be considering the strengths, skills and interests we all have and thinking about our own personal qualities and setting goals for the year ahead.

## French

Our unit 'On y va' (All aboard) focuses on the weather, days of the week and transport. We will also revisit and practise vocabulary and phrases for greetings, numbers, days of the week etc.

## PE

Football, rugby, yoga and fitness sessions will be this term's activities and hopefully we will complete as many lessons as possible outside. Lessons will take place on Monday for the whole afternoon. Kit consists of a plain red T-shirt, plain black shorts and trainers. As the weather begins to get colder the children are also allowed to bring a tracksuit for outdoor PE lessons. Please mark every item with your child's name. If your child wears stud earrings please remember that these need to be removed for lessons or covered with micropore.

## Homework

Homework and spellings will continue to be set every Thursday, to be handed in or tested on the following Tuesday. Children will be expected to practise their weekly spellings in whichever way they find most effective. **By the end of Year 4 it is expected that the children know all their times tables up to 12 x 12:** they will be formally assessed on this next June, as will all Year 4 children across the country. Please try and make time at home to practise times tables on a regular basis. I have sent home a copy of 'A Grown Up's Guide to Times Tables,' which has lots of useful ideas in it. There are numerous apps around that support learning of times tables, and in the 'More' section of Maths Shed the children can access the 'Multiplication Tables Check' (MTC) which offers practice identical to the national assessment. Here are some useful websites to also support in this area:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables>

<https://www.timestables.co.uk>

<https://www.mathschase.com>

<https://mathsframe.co.uk>

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/maths/timestable/index.html>

**Reading**

Please encourage daily reading of 15-20 minutes, which should be recorded in their Home School Record book. The children are free to read their scheme reading book or a book from the class library.

**Stationery**

Please note, the children have been provided with all the equipment they need for school so they do not need to bring a pencil case in with their own items.

If you have any questions or queries I can be contacted via email.

[debbie.creigh@bad.kent.sch.uk](mailto:debbie.creigh@bad.kent.sch.uk)

Kind regards,

Mrs Munro, Mrs Fulton, Miss Raval and Mrs Brown