

# High Littleton C. of E. Primary School, High Littleton, Bristol BS39 6HF

Part of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership

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## "Welcome to Badger Class!"

Newsletter September 2019

Mrs Bailey and Ms Tunstall would like to wish you a warm welcome to Badger Class. This newsletter is for you and your parents to read together so that you all know what's happening in Badger Class. It will give you a taster of the forthcoming topic and a summary of our weekly routines.

Our **new topic** is indeed, very topical! It is based on **Our European Neighbours**. We will be learning about the difference between physical and human features, locate capital cities, landmarks, rivers, mountains and climate. In particular, we will be studying and contrasting the UK and Italy more closely. We will, of course, be watching the news and will discuss the impact that Brexit may have.

### English

The class text this term will be reading Roald Dahl's *George's Marvellous Medicine*.

*It is about a young boy, George, who is forced to stay with his witchlike grandmother, with a penchant for eating bugs. However, considering her elderly state, she must have her medication each day, and her grandson must bring it to her. George, being the curious young boy he is, decides he will instead create his own medicine for her, just to kind of shake her up a bit.*

We will touch upon plot structure, character and setting, as well as practising our understanding of written language using comprehension, grammar and punctuation exercises. In **Big Write** we will be using the genre of *Writing to Inform* with a focus on the skills and techniques used to organise and structure our writing to make it easier to read and understand.

### Science

In Science we will be studying **Forces**: how forces make and affect movement and slow movement down (friction). As always, lessons in Science will be both informative and practical and children will be asked to use prior knowledge from their own predictions and design fair tests in investigating these.

### Maths

This term we will focus on number and place value, mental and written addition and subtraction, multiplication and division. In Geometry we will study angles; triangles; quadrilaterals and horizontal, vertical, parallel and perpendicular lines.

Homework is on the Doodle Maths website. You will have your own username and password.

### Weekly Routines:

- Times Tables Test is every Monday. It is very important that you practise your times tables at home ready for your test. Stars are awarded for effort and progress! By the end of Year 3, everyone must be able to recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 3, 4 and 8 multiplication tables. (We can move onto other tables once these are mastered.)



By the end of Year 4 children must be able to recall multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to  $12 \times 12$ . There will be an online assessment at the end of the academic year. ( Year 4 only)

We do however, try to keep the learning as informal and as anxious free as possible, and we are very keen to encourage and praise children for their efforts with this very tricky skill.

- Mrs Beale will be teaching **PE** on Tuesdays and Mrs Meissner or Ms Tunstall on Fridays. (Please remember to have your *named* P.E. kit in school on a daily basis.)
- **Spelling Homework** will be given out on Fridays to be handed in the following Thursday. It will consist of spellings that we have studied in class that you are to learn at home as well as an associated activity to help you understand the spelling rules and their application.
- **Reading Check** will be done by Ms Gibson on a weekly basis. Please hand in your reading record every Friday morning. We expect everyone to read regularly at home. Don't forget, even if you are a very good reader, that *regular reading practice is essential* for fluency, comprehension and confidence. You need to read at least **3 times per week** and **get an adult to sign** your reading record each time please. This will earn you a sticker on your Bookmark. (Maximum of 2 stickers per week.) Certificates are awarded in Friday's Celebration Assembly for completed bookmarks. You may not necessarily read your allocated reading book, it can be a newspaper or magazine or novel of your choice.
- Cloakrooms: we have limited space so **large bags on pegs cannot be accommodated** as they make access to coats and soft PE bags very difficult. Book bags will be stored in the classroom, lunch boxes on a rack in the corridor, fruit and water bottles (named, please) on a shelf inside the classroom. **Pencil cases are not required** in Badger class as all stationery is supplied in class.

**Seating arrangements:** The first few days are there to get to know one another. You may choose where you would like to sit, but you may be moved around after a short time. We will sort out the best place for you to feel relaxed and working to your best. It is likely that you will sit in a variety of places during the week according to the activity being carried out.

**Reading books:** There are lots of fabulous new reading books for you to enjoy. Getting the right kind of reading book can sometimes be a challenge. The book you are given at first might seem too easy or too hard, but don't worry, we will sort it out the best sort of books for you as soon as we can. **You will be able to change your own reading book when you have completed it.** It is important that you find a book that you are enjoying and this should be possible because every level has some great books to choose from.

## THINGS YOUR TEACHERS EXPECT FROM YOU

We expect you to:

- listen to and respect one another (both children and adults.)
- look after your property and those of others
- try your best to have neat and tidy work at all times
- keep a neat and tidy classroom
- hand your homework in on time
- practise your spellings and times tables regularly
- try your best at all times

and....



## THINGS TO EXPECT FROM YOUR TEACHERS!

We will:

- praise you and encourage you when you try hard
- help you with your work so you can understand
- tell you what we are doing everyday
- listen to you if you are worried about something
- mark your work thoroughly so that you know how you are learning (this is sometimes done alongside you)
- hear you read in class or in a group every week where possible
- **always aim to make the work and the school day as fun as possible!**

Please remember, our door is always open.

We are both looking forward to a busy and enjoyable term together!

Mrs Bailey and Ms Tunstall

