



Badgers Newsletter September 2018

I hope everyone had a relaxing summer break, which of course now seems a distant memory as school routines take over! It has been lovely to see the children who were with us last year and to welcome new faces into our centre. This is the first Badgers' newsletter, which is issued half-termly and aims to keep you informed about activities taking place in Badgers.

Children in Badgers Class

Over the course of the year we have several requests, usually around birthday party times, for names of children in the class. We thought it might make it easier for you all if we gave you this list now! It would also help us if you could use the pictures to help your child to learn the names of their friends in Badgers.

Foundation Stage children	Year 1 children	Year 2 children
Alex Brooklyn Joseph Ned Mika	James Poppy Poppy-Mae Shahzain Tekai Xander	Finn Ethan Isabella Caelan Matthew

The teachers in Badgers are Mrs Jenny Ricketts, Mrs Roxanne Milner-Brown, Mrs Hannah Chandler and Ms Nicki White. We are supported by a wonderful group of teaching assistants working alongside the children in the classroom.

 Ms White	 Mrs Milner-Brown	 Mrs Ricketts	 Mrs Buckfield	 Mrs Chandler
 Mrs Gane	 Mrs Lynn	 Mrs Clark	 Mrs Lewis	
 Mrs Deighton	 Mrs Green	 Julia Hassard Speech & Language Therapist	 Sally Edwards Speech & Language Therapy Teaching Assistant	

Day	Morning	Afternoon
Monday Outside games	Mrs Chandler and Mrs Milner-Brown Mrs Deighton, Mrs Buckfield, Mrs Gane, Mrs Green, Mrs Lewis, Mrs Lynn and Mrs Clark	Mrs Chandler and Mrs Milner-Brown Mrs Deighton, Mrs Buckfield, Mrs Gane, Mrs Lewis, Mrs Lynn and Mrs Green
Tuesday Swimming or Forest School	Mrs Ricketts Mrs Deighton, Mrs Buckfield, Mrs Gane, Mrs Green, Mrs Lewis, Mrs Lynn and Mrs Clark	Ms White and Mrs Ricketts Badgers staff meeting (2.30 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.) Mrs Deighton, Mrs Buckfield, Mrs Gane, Mrs Lewis, Mrs Lynn
Wednesday Gymnastics	Mrs Ricketts and Mrs Milner-Brown Mrs Deighton, Mrs Buckfield, Mrs Green, Mrs Lewis, Mrs Lynn and Mrs Clark	Mrs Ricketts and Mrs Milner-Brown Mrs Deighton, Mrs Buckfield, Mrs Green, Mrs Lewis, Mrs Lynn, and Mrs Clark
Thursday	Mrs Ricketts and Mrs Milner-Brown Mrs Deighton, Mrs Buckfield, Mrs Gane, Mrs Green, Mrs Lewis, Mrs Lynn and Mrs Clark	PPA time (1.30 p.m. – 2.30 p.m.) Mrs Ricketts and Mrs Milner-Brown Mrs Deighton, Mrs Buckfield, Mrs Gane, Mrs Lewis, Mrs Lynn and Mrs Clark
Friday PE Active Lunchtime Forest School	Ms White and Mrs Ricketts/Mrs Chandler Mrs Deighton, Mrs Buckfield, Mrs Gane, Mrs Green, Mrs Lewis, Mrs Lynn and Mrs Clark	Ms White Mrs Deighton, Mrs Buckfield, Mrs Gane, Mrs Lewis, Mrs Lynn

Timetabling of children's integration into their mainstream classes is flexible according to individual need. Once the reception children have settled in we will put together a timetable for their integration into Ladybirds if we feel it is appropriate for them.

Speech and Language Therapy

Our Speech and Language Therapist, Julia Hassard, will continue to work with the children in Badgers and she is supported by a specially trained Teaching Assistant called Sally Edwards. Mrs Hassard is in school on Wednesdays should you wish to speak to her.

PPA and Badgers Staff Meeting

On a Thursday afternoon, Ms White, Mrs Ricketts and Mrs Milner-Brown meet to discuss 'Planning, Preparation and Assessment' (PPA). During this time, the Teaching Assistants deliver planned activities for the children. Badgers staff meet on a Tuesday afternoon at 2.30 p.m. and Teaching Assistants from across the school come and play and work alongside the children during this time. Parents are also welcome to come in as well during this time. If it is something that you would be interested in doing and would be able to give a regular commitment to, you will need to complete a DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) form which is available from the School Office.

Swimming



You will have already received information about swimming this term so please make sure that you have made a note of the days your child will be swimming and ensure that your child has his or her swimming kit with them. It makes it very difficult for us when we have to go searching for kit and it can be unsettling for the children. Please can we remind you that we must receive payment in advance.

PE and Active Lunchtime

The children have got PE scheduled for Mondays and Wednesdays. Please can the children bring in their PE kits on a Monday and we will send it home on Friday. Can you also make sure that all your child's clothing is clearly named and fits. It is very difficult for the children when plimsolls are too big or too small.



Active lunchtime takes place on a Friday. Students from the Reigate School come and help run a series of sporting activities during the second half of the children's lunchtime for KS1 children

only. The children need a change of clothing for these activities, especially when the weather turns colder and wetter, as most of the activities do take place outside. We hope that these sessions will begin on Friday 21 September for children in years one and two.

Forest School

Our main Forest School session takes place on a Friday afternoon and because we have found it to be such a valuable learning experience for the children, they will also be taking part in a session on the Tuesdays that they do not go swimming. Unless there are very high winds or thunder and lightning, we go out in all weathers! Please make sure that your child has appropriate clothing including hats, gloves and scarves when the weather turns colder. Whilst we can supply wellington boots it does help us enormously if the children can bring in their own wellies.

Reading

Your child will be bringing home reading books every day. They will have two colour coded books chosen by either Ms White, Mrs Milner-Brown or Mrs Ricketts and will be changed weekly. The children will also choose a book from the class library and a school library book. These can be changed more regularly if required. It is an important stage in learning to read that children perceive themselves as good readers and they may well choose books they can "read" again and again. This is to be encouraged and will help to build confidence. We will however be guiding children to try new books when we feel it is appropriate.



The Curriculum

The first half of this term will be spent talking about and reinforcing classroom and school rules. We will also be talking about table manners and learning how to set the table. We are using the much loved Paw Patrol characters as our theme for teaching across the curriculum and each week the children will be set a problem to solve involving one of the characters. The children will have daily Mathematics and Literacy lessons. When we feel they are ready, most children will be learning phonics and reading and writing skills through "Jolly Phonics" which uses visual clues and actions to help children remember the sounds of the letters, although some will be learning through a whole word approach which is better suited to their learning style. The children will be bringing home sheets to reinforce their learning and will help you support your child at home. If there are any parents who have not come across Jolly Phonics and would like some more information, then please get in touch with us.



Scrapbooks

It is really helpful if you can put something, however small, in the scrapbook every weekend. The books provide an invaluable link between home and school and form the basis of our Literacy work on a Monday morning.



Working in Partnership with Parents

We are aware that it can be difficult to come and help in school, especially as so many of the children are brought to school by taxi and many parents work. However, if you are able to spare some time then you would be more than welcome! It may be that you have hidden talents that we could tap in to! Please let us know.

We have a very successful Parent Teacher Association and they are always on the lookout for parents who can help in any way, however small. They organise a variety of events throughout the year to raise extra funds for the school such as quiz nights, uniform sales and the summer and Christmas Fayres. If you would like to get involved please let us know and we will put you in touch with them.

Coffee Afternoon

We hold these afternoons each half term. They provide an opportunity for parents to get together in an informal setting and have a chat. We understand that it can be difficult for parents to



meet each other as many children come in by taxi and parents therefore miss out on the playground banter. This half term's get together will be held on Friday 21 October after the sponsored walk which normally finishes by 10.00 a.m. at the latest. Why not come and support your child during the walk and join the other parents for a coffee and chat afterwards?

And finally

We have an open door policy at Dovers Green and welcome parents in school. However, if you need to talk to us at any length we would appreciate that you do so at the end of the day when things aren't so hectic!

We are all looking forward to a busy and successful half-term and working with your children.

Nicki White, Jenny Ricketts, Roxanne Milner-Brown and Hannah Chandler

Communication and Language

We will:

- listen to stories and share our understanding through a range of activities such as role play and small world toys.
- use our scrapbooks to talk about our own experiences of journeys and places we have visited.
- listen to others when they share their experiences and ask them questions so that we can find out more and show each other that we have been listening carefully.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will:

- learn the rules and routines in Badgers and around the school.
- make new friends.
- continue to learn how to play co-operatively, take turns and share favourite toys with each other.
- learn how to care for things in the classroom and in the environment by for example, looking after our friends and making sure we tidy up our toys when we are asked to do so.
- learn to recognise our different feelings.

Physical Education

Dance

We will learn to control our bodies and co-ordinate the movements we make while using our imagination.

Gym

We will use the apparatus safely and explore different ways to move our bodies.

Games

We will develop the ability to throw and catch a ball or a bean bag and throw an object accurately at a target.

- develop our fine motor skills using various tools and equipment and know how to use them safely.

Literacy

We will:

- read books such as 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Rescue', 'The Little Red Hen' and 'The Enormous Turnip'.
- be learning about letter sounds and some of us will be using our phonic knowledge to help us read and write words. These children will also be remembering to use their finger spaces and using full stops and capital letters correctly.
- be practising making lines and marks and some of us will be learning how to form our letters and numbers correctly.

September 2018

Autumn 1

Paw Patrol

Harvest



Arts Week - 'Take One Picture'

Mathematics

We will:

- practise counting accurately using objects. Some of us will be adding and taking away using objects and number lines.
- find one more or less than a given number using a number line.
- be using the weighing scales to investigate whether objects are heavy or light. We will also be weighing ingredients when we do any cooking.
- learn about 2 and 3D shapes.
- comparing different things for example, finding out who has got the biggest feet or who is the tallest in Badgers.

Expressive and Creative Arts

We will:

- choose and use equipment and tools appropriately to help us create pictures and models.
- learn how to apply paint correctly. Some of us will learn how to mix colours together.
- develop the skill of observation to help us sketch, paint our own representations and create models such as making a vehicle to carry the crop for harvest.
- explore musical sounds and make up simple rhythmic patterns using musical instruments.
- use our role-play corner which will be a kitchen and later on a Doctor's Surgery to develop our imaginative play.

Understanding the World

We will:

- observe, explore and talk about the changes that occur as we move into autumn, such as observing the leaves changing colour.
- find out about different occupations such as firefighters.

In ICT we will:

- use speech bubble voice recorders to talk about the changes that we can see happening in Forest School and our environment.
- continue to develop our skills to programme toys and use a CD player.