



Badgers Newsletter

February 2019



This is a busy half term with lots of exciting activities planned for the children! Before we know it, it will be summer!

A reminder...

This newsletter is sent out to you so that you have some understanding of what the children will be learning throughout the half-term. We hope it will help you to talk to your child about what is going on in school and support them in the different areas of learning. However it is



important to also read Miss Salisbury's newsletter (which comes out on the first Friday of every month) carefully as this gives further information about life at Dovers Green in general and key dates that you need to be aware of such as Mufti Days and other occasions where the children need to bring in something specific as part of whole school activities. I understand that there can be some confusion as to whether all activities or meetings apply to the Badgers children and Parents. In terms of workshops and other in-school activities, we include the children when we feel it is appropriate and we will let you know through the contact books if your child has participated. You are always welcome at Curriculum Evenings and would encourage you to attend because it gives us an opportunity to share with you how we teach different aspects of the curriculum. If enough Badgers parents attend, we will run bespoke workshops for you. With regard to other meetings, we will send out a Parentmail to specifically invite you. I hope this clarifies things, but if in doubt please get in touch!

Topic Work



We are using the popular Cbeebies programme 'Go Jettors' to support our geography themed topic this half term. The children will be learning about London and comparing it to the Amazonian rainforest. Our younger children will enjoy learning all about the different animals that live there and our older children will have the opportunity to think about and explain what is different about the two locations which forms part of the key stage 1 geography curriculum.

We will be learning about Mother's Day and of course, Easter. We will also start planting different fruits and vegetables in the greenhouse ready for planting out after the Easter break and looking for signs of spring in our Forest School sessions.

English

The children will continue with their daily Jolly Phonics lessons or engage in activities to develop their ability to listen carefully for rhymes and sounds which are important skills that the children need to acquire before they are ready to learn to read. The children read regularly in school but we do see an enormous difference in their progress when you read daily with them at home.



The children will be learning the story of The Three Little Pigs to develop their understanding about how stories are structured. They will be learning the story so that they can tell it off by heart because this helps them with their language development and in writing and making up their own stories.

Mathematics

We will continue to be developing the children's basic number skills as well as learning to measure and develop our understanding of size.



Swimming



A reminder that if you pay for these activities half-termly, the next instalment is due. For those families who have opted to pay weekly, please make sure you do send in the money each week as the school cannot afford to subsidise these extra activities. Please make sure that your child has the correct clothing each week. In response to your comments we are going to try and include a brief comment about how the children have got on in their swimming lesson in their contact books.

Scrapbooks

Please could you try and put something in the children's scrapbooks each week. Even if it is just a sentence, it gives us something to talk to your child about.

Forest School

Forest School has started again this week. If you can send in wellingtons for the children that would be very helpful.



Active Lunchtimes and PE Kits

Please, please, please can you ensure that your child has the correct PE kit which is named. The children need a pair of shorts, t-shirt, tracksuit bottoms, plimsolls or trainers.

Our 'Active Lunchtime' sessions have started again for children in Years 1 and 2 and take place every Friday lunchtime (weather permitting). These sessions are supported by students from Reigate School. The children will be involved in activities such as dance, ball games, football, basket ball and parachute games. Please make sure that your child has appropriate clothing for these activities. Whilst the weather is still cool, they will need something warm to wear such as a tracksuit.



Coffee afternoon



It was lovely to see some of you at the last coffee afternoon and Nicki explained that in the past she have been able to get some professionals, such as the dentist from East Surrey Hospital, to come to talk to parents to give advice and support. If there are any topics or professionals you would like me to try and arrange perhaps you could let Emma Berners (our class rep) know and she will do her best to sort it out!

The next afternoon will be on Wednesday 20 March from 2.15 p.m.

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!

The Badgers Team

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 talk about significant events 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:

- continue to learn how to play co-operatively, take turns and share favourite toys with each other.
- Make sure that when we come into school in the morning we put our bookbags away, put our water bottles on the markers, hang up our coats and check our timetables.
- 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.

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.

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

Literacy

We will:

- learn the story of The Three Little pigs so that they can act it out and retell it.
- write poems about ourselves and our Mummies.
- Re-tell the Easter Story
- 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.

February and March 2017

London and The Amazon
Rainforest

Why do we have Celebrations?

Easter



Mathematics

We will:

- practise counting accurately using objects. Some of us will be adding and taking away using objects and number lines and learning about place value.
- find one more or less than a given number using a number line.
- sort objects into different sets.
- learn about measuring objects and developing our vocabulary so that we can talk about and compare objects of different sizes.

Expressive and Creative Arts

We will:

- choose and use equipment and tools appropriately to help us create pictures and models.
- create simple representations of people and events
- 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.
- explore musical sounds and make up simple rhythmic patterns using musical instruments.
- use our role-play corner which will be an airport to develop our imaginative play.

Understanding the World

We will:

- observe, explore and talk about the changes that occur in spring.
- plant seeds and observing them as they grow.
- discuss what makes us similar to and different from other people.
- find out how we have changed as we have got older.
- learn about the Easter stories and traditions.
- learn about London and The Amazonian Rainforest.

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.
- use computer programs to create pictures and support our learning across the curriculum.