



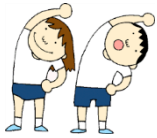
## Badgers Newsletter January 2022

Welcome back! We hope you all had a good Christmas and New Year. The children have come back happy and ready to learn. The children loved being immersed in artwork by famous artists during their first few days back. We have role play areas where the children become artists or art dealers trying to sell paintings! We have explored the painting 'A Roman Triumph' by Peter Paul Rubens. There is so much to see in this painting! In Badgers Sett the children have explored this painting and others through Attention Autism activities and both classes have dressed up as characters from the painting. In Badgers main class the children have written about what they like and dislike about the painting. You could have a look with your child and ask them to point to various animals, people and buildings and point to or tell you what they like about the painting. They really have been fascinated by it!

<https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/paintings/peter-paul-rubens-a-roman-triumph>

### PE

The children have PE scheduled for Mondays and Tuesdays. Please can you 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. Monday PE lessons take place outside so please do ensure your child has appropriate clothing for warmth. The children need to bring their PE kit at the beginning of term and we will send it home at the end of each half term.



### Swimming

We are very lucky that we are able to start swimming again! We will be using the pool at Wray Common. The children will be split into 2 groups so will swim every other Thursday. Please see the swimming letter to find out which group your child is in and the dates that they will be swimming. Please ensure they have their swimming kit (swimming costume and towel in a bag) on those dates.

### Forest School

In order that the site has a chance to recover and to ensure plants are not damaged before they have time to emerge in spring there will be no Forest School for this half-term.



### English



We continue to teach daily 'Read Write Inc' lessons to help the children learn letter sounds, tricky words and develop blending and segmenting skills to help with reading and writing skills. More information can be found at <https://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/find-out-more/parents/>. All children access the RWI flashcards which can be purchased from Amazon for around £6. If you are able to reinforce these sounds at home that would really support the children and help to consolidate their learning. When learning to read some of the children in Badgers respond better to learning through a whole word approach and this strategy will also be incorporated into our learning and teaching.

At school we read with your child twice per week. Reading with your child at home is so important for many reasons such as developing an interest in books and love for reading. It helps them to develop listening and language skills and stimulates their understanding. Encouraging your child to point to parts of the picture and commenting on them helps to draw their attention to the story or information and helps with their understanding (try not to ask too many questions - a guide is 4 comments to 1 question).

Read Write Inc ebooks and sound practise sheets are available free via the Oxford Owl website should you wish to practise further at home at: [www.oxfordowl.co.uk/read-write-inc-home](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/read-write-inc-home) (You will need to create a free account on Oxford Owl for Home to access the eBooks).

## Mathematics

We continue to develop the children's foundation skills in maths such as number recognition and counting skills. You can support your child by singing lots of counting songs and looking out for numbers and shapes in the environment. Some children in Badgers main class follow the White Rose Scheme of work. This term we are focusing on addition and subtraction. The children in KS1 can also use Mathematics to support their learning at home.



## Knowledge Organiser

Attached you will find our Knowledge Organiser for spring half term 1. This is an overview of what we want the children to have learnt in our topic 'Our Wonderful Country' by the end of the half term. You can use it to make links between home and school or extend learning for your child perhaps you might borrow the books we are using from the library or look at simple maps or UK landmarks on the internet.

## Scrapbooks

The children love sharing their scrapbooks on a Monday. The children love looking at the photos and some children enjoy sharing their scrapbooks with their friends. Please ensure that you put something, however small, in the scrapbook every weekend so that they have something to share. The books provide an invaluable link between home and school and form the basis of our Literacy work on a Monday morning.



## Communication

If you have any questions or concerns or need to speak to a teacher please contact us via [info@dovers-green.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@dovers-green.surrey.sch.uk) email address. We no longer use the badgers@ email address. If you have a quick query, question or need to let us know something about your child for that day please use the Orange Contact Books that are sent home with the children in their book bags.

This term we welcome Mrs Aimee Smith who is our new Teaching Assistant in Badgers main class.

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

Lucy Williams, Jenny Ricketts, Anne-Marie Merriman and the Badgers' team.



# Badgers Spring Term 1 - Our Wonderful Country

Key vocabulary	
country	An area of land with its own government, rules and borders.
town	A place where people live and work. There may be shops, places of worship, leisure facilities and schools there. It is bigger than a village but smaller than a city.
countryside	Land that is not in towns or cities. Sometimes there are small villages there. There is lots of farmland and often woodland.
UK	The United Kingdom is made up of four countries: England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland
island	An area of land surrounded by water.
sea	Water that surrounds or borders land.
landmark	A feature of a landscape or place that is easily recognised. (a human or physical feature)
population	The number of people who live in a place.

## Supporting texts



## Key questions - Ask me this...

What is a town?

What is the countryside?

What countries make up the UK?

Which landmarks are famous in the UK?

What is the capital of England?

What is it like to live in England?

How do people travel to different places in the UK?

## Learning intentions - We will learn to:

Draw information from a simple map.

Recognise some environments that are different to the one in which they live.

Understand how some places are linked to other places by road and trains.

Use locational and directional language (e.g. near and far; left and right) to describe the location of features.

Ask simple geographical questions e.g. What is it like to live in this place?

**Link to Creative Arts week...**use google earth and flight simulator/tracker for Wow:

Where in the world is Rome?

Where in the world is the UK?