



Information for the Autumn Term 2015

Welcome to Badgers and Squirrels 2/1 classes!

Here are some snippets of information to inform you of some things we will be doing this term in our classes.

In maths this term we will be focussing on: Counting, understanding hundreds, tens and ones, securing number facts, understanding addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, mental calculation strategies, understanding shape and space, problem solving, fractions, money and handling data.

In English this term we will be focussing on: Labels and captions, story writing, recounts, poetry, descriptive writing. We will also focus on spelling, punctuation and handwriting.

Subject	The main topics this term will be: Ourselves, Celebrations
<i>Geography</i>	Local 4 countries of the UK
<i>History</i>	Changes within living memory Significant national events (Guy Fawkes, Remembrance)
<i>Science</i>	Humans and animals: needs and life cycles Uses of everyday materials
<i>ICT</i>	Coding Paint programs Animation
<i>DT</i>	Sewing felt decorations
<i>Art</i>	Portraits, drawing & painting Firework pictures Clay
<i>RE</i>	How do Christians show belonging to a faith family? Why is light a symbol for different religions?

Headteacher: Mrs S.H. Bradford

Deputy Headteacher: Miss D.K. Stannard

<i>PE</i>	Dance Games Gym
<i>Music</i>	Music Express
<i>PSHE</i>	Celebrating similarities and differences Rules and expectations

Learning @ home Journal

Our learning@home journals have proved to be very successful over the last five years. They enhance and support work that happens in class, but also provide ideas for you to talk to your child about the work that they are doing.

Each week there is a practical maths task for you to do or some number facts to learn. The tasks will usually be activities to do with your child and should not involve any pencil and paper work. **If you decide to do pencil and paper work, it is important that you check through it with your child so that they get immediate feedback.**

Each week we will have a **Big Talk** theme. This will be something for you to talk about with your child and will usually be linked to our English or topic work. Your discussions will help the work that they complete in class.

The learning@home journal is also the place where you can share with us significant learning at home. This may or may not be linked with our topic. You do not need to write general things about the homework or what they have been talking about, but if your child has achieved something new, such as swimming the length of a pool, we would like to know!

Occasionally we may include in the journal a written/research task that links with our topic.

Homework Timetable	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Reading, spelling and Learning @ home.	Reading, spelling and Learning @ home.	Reading, spelling and Big Writing Talk.	Reading.	Reading, spelling and Learning @ home.
<i>Learning @ home journal & spellings should be returned on Thursday.</i>				Spelling books in for marking. Learning @ home journal in.	New spellings & Learning @ home journal given out.

Spellings:

We will not be formally testing the children's spellings on a weekly basis, but they will be issued with some words to learn using the 'Look, Say, Cover, Write and Check' method. Evidence of knowing spellings will be found within the children's work. At times, some of the words may prove easy for your child. You can extend their word skills by playing word games with them, such as Hangman, Scrabble and anagram games.

Reading:

Reading should be practised daily if possible and recorded in their reading record. To promote independence, Badgers and Squirrels choose their own reading book from the appropriate colour book basket. This will be done on arrival at school and is checked by a member of staff. When your child has shared their book with you at home, and you have written in the reading record, remind them to change the book the next morning. Over the next few days and weeks we will be showing the children what to do.

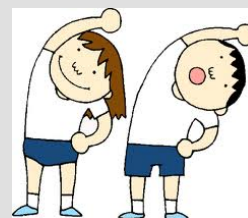
Your child has PE on **MONDAYS** and **FRIDAYS** and needs a clearly labelled kit.

Due to limited cloakroom space, can you please provide a small, named PE bag.

(plain white t-shirt, shorts and plimsolls)

PE kits **do not** need to go home every week; they can remain in school and go home each holiday.

If kit gets grubby we will send it home to you.



Please can you make sure your child has a water bottle in class every day. Keeping hydrated has been shown to be beneficial for health and well-being. However we also have a social time each day where the children can drink and share thoughts and ideas. In the past, we have felt that children without bottles have missed out on sharing this experience.

Classroom/Library Helpers

We would be extremely grateful to any adult helpers who would like to come in and help with lessons or to hear the children read. We rely heavily on parental support as our busy timetable doesn't allow us to hear children read individually very often. Having an encouraging, friendly and supportive listener has a significant impact on children's reading.

If you have an hour or two free we are also looking for someone to supervise the children while they change their library books. All necessary support and training will be given. If you are interested please pop in and see us so that we can make arrangements.



Website

Please check our class blogs on the school website - www.roydonprimary.co.uk, and feel free to comment on the activities and work you see; the children respond well to any positive feedback. The blogs will be updated regularly throughout the year.

If you have any questions, queries or concerns about your child or their learning, please feel free to come and speak to any of us *after* school.

Thank you from:

Badgers: Mrs Campbell, Mrs Turberville, Ms Holden, and Miss Page

Squirrels: Mrs Kineavy, Mrs Bowen, Mrs Castro, and Mrs Ebert

HLTAs: Mrs Collis and Mrs Mills