



## Information for the Autumn Term 2019

### Welcome to Badgers and Squirrels classes

Here are some snippets of information to let you know about the things we will be doing in our classes this term.

**On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September, Badgers and Squirrels are getting into the festive spirit to create our Cauliflower Cards for this Christmas. This is a really exciting afternoon and we would love you to join us at 1:30pm. If Mum or Dad can't be at school, other friends and family are more than welcome.**

**In maths 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; handling data

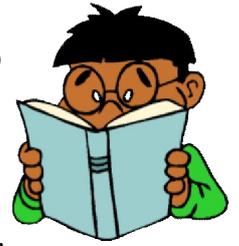
**In English we will be focussing on:** Story writing, fact sheets, instructions, recounts, poetry and descriptive writing. We will also focus on spelling, punctuation and handwriting.

Subject	The main topic this term will be: <b>Aliens</b>	
<i>Science</i>	Everyday materials	
<i>History</i>	Changes within living memory Lives of significant individuals in the past	
<i>Geography</i>	Use simple fieldwork and observational skills to study the geography of our school and its grounds, and the key human and physical features of its surrounding environment.	
<i>ICT</i>	Coding Internet safety	
<i>Music</i>	Singing Playing tuned and untuned instruments	
<i>RE</i>	How do Christians belong to their faith family? Why is light a symbol for different religions?	
<i>Art</i>	Create an alien Clay alien	
<i>PE</i>	Fundamental skills for invasion games Sportshall athletics	
<i>DT</i>	Textile - Christmas stocking or bauble	

## Learning at home

### Maths:

Each half term we will send a number of fun maths activities for you to do with your child. These can be done in any order and may not necessarily need to be completed using a pencil and paper.



### Reading:

Please listen to your child read as often as possible as research shows that children who regularly read at home make greater progress. Please sign the reading record each time and **note the last page your child read**; a further comment only needs to be recorded if you would like to. Reading books together and reading to a child can enhance your child's bank of ideas for story-writing and is a nice way to end the day with them.

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.

### Spellings:

Each week your child will be given six spellings to learn for their phonics class the following Thursday. Most children find that using the 'Look, Say, Cover, Write and Check' method works well. 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 hang man, scrabble and anagram games. This year the children will be doing their weekly spelling test at the back of their book so you will be able to see their spelling score.

## **BADGERS and SQUIRRELS have PE on TUESDAY & FRIDAY**

They will need a clearly labelled kit to include:

a plain white t-shirt, shorts and indoor trainers **AND** a tracksuit and outdoor trainers.



**Due to limited locker space, please provide a small, named PE bag. Back packs are very bulky and we find that drawstring PE bags fit better.**

**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 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.**

**In addition, we also have a social time some day when the children can drink water while sharing thoughts and ideas. In the past, we have felt that children without bottles have missed out on sharing this experience.**

## **Uniform**

Can we please remind everyone that children need to wear correct uniform, including black school shoes. Trainers can only be worn in school for PE lessons. Nail varnish and jewellery (including wristbands) need to be removed for school. If your child has pierced ears, they can wear stud earrings; however, these need to be removed by the child before PE lessons. It is easier not to wear earrings on PE days.

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



Thank you from  
Badgers: Mrs Campbell, Mrs Jolly, Mrs Jilley and Ms Holden.  
Squirrels: Miss Vale, Miss Page, Mrs Wheeler and Mrs Chamberlain.