

# Badgers

## Last Term Round-up

This half term, the children in Badgers class have been engaged in a wide range of exciting learning!

In Science, we continued to explore how sound is produced by defining pitch and volume. The children investigated how pitch can be changed and learned how vibrations create sound. They also examined how different materials affect the way sound is blocked, developing their understanding of sound in a hands-on way.

Our Geography lessons focused on understanding the economic activity linked to chocolate and how trade connects the UK to the Ivory Coast. The children explored the journey of goods and considered the wider impact of trade on communities. In French, the children began learning new language content inspired by *The Hungry Caterpillar*. They practiced key vocabulary and phrases, building confidence in speaking and understanding French in context.

In PE, we were lucky enough to engage in weekly street dance sessions with Integr8. Outdoors, we took part in Real PE sessions, enhancing our agility, balance and teamwork skills.

In English, we have followed two writing journeys. From *Rooftoppers*, the children wrote persuasive letters to Martin Eliot in the voice of Charles Maxim and crafted diary entries recounting Sophie's journey. From *The Lizzie and Belle Mysteries*, the main outcome was a biography of Ignatius Sancho. The children also produced persuasive posters and learned to incorporate parenthesis when writing letters of urgency, strengthening their writing skills across different genres.

In Computing, the children evaluated code to understand how it works and adapted existing code for specific purposes. They also designed appropriate housing for a product using CAD software, considering the necessary input and output devices to make their designs functional.

Our RE sessions saw us learning about Dukkha - a central Buddhist teaching about how life involves challenges and difficulties. They learned how Buddhists understand this as part of the Four Noble Truths and explored how following the Eightfold Path can help overcome these challenges.

In Maths, the children focused on multiplying proper fractions and mixed numbers by whole numbers and solving related problems. They revised the four operations and applied their knowledge to problems involving percentages and decimal equivalents.

Throughout our music sessions, the children performed looped body percussion rhythms, experimented with creating musical loops, and selected suitable fragments of music to perform structured pieces with two different loops. In Art, the children designed and printed their own tiles with a focus on African wildlife, drawing inspiration from the photographer John Muafangeio. They explored patterns, textures and printing techniques to bring their designs to life.

Finally, in PSHE, the children explored the concept of bias and discussed how there can be two sides to every story. They also learned about social media, including the legal age for having an account and the reasons behind these guidelines, developing awareness of responsible digital citizenship.

This half term has been full of curiosity, creativity, and discovery, with the children embracing challenges across all areas of learning! I hope that you all have a lovely, restful break with plenty of sunshine.

# Looking Ahead to Next Term

We are fortunate to have several additional adults supporting the class next term:

- Mrs. Payne – Supporting the class as Teaching Assistant
- Mrs. Bottle – Teaching French on a Wednesday afternoon
- PBED – Teaching PE on a Wednesday afternoon

To allow some flexibility of PE days, it would be great if children can ensure that they have the correct PE kit in school throughout the week. We advise that children bring in their PE kit on a Monday and then take it home on Friday to be washed. Also, a reminder that long hair should be tied back in school and no jewellery should be worn, especially in PE.

Our main topic for the first half of summer term will be World War 2. As well as learning about it in our history lessons, our music will also see us learning songs from the second world war. Our writing journeys will also be based around this topic as we use the text driver '*The Errand*' to write our own directions and craft our own narratives using the picture book '*The Lion and the Unicorn*'. In our computing lessons, we will be learning about code breaking and password hacking as we focus on Bletchley Park. Our science focus for this term will be controlling electrical circuits.

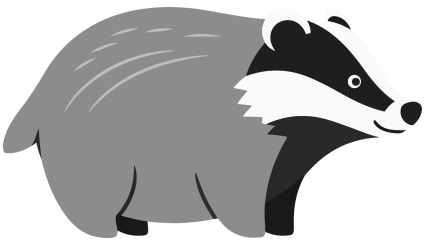
Homework will be given out on a Friday and due in the following Friday. This allows families to choose whether it is completed during the school week or over the weekend. Every week, there will be an English task (a reading comprehension and grammar activity from their CGP books) and a Maths task (a workout from their CGP books). As well as this, children are expected to log on to TTRS each week to practise their times tables. Thank you for your support with the reintroduction of spelling tests this year. There is such value in promoting practising their spellings at home and it is improving the accuracy of spelling across the school.

Please encourage your children to read regularly and widely (for pleasure!) throughout the year - both independently and aloud. Please record this in their homework diaries along with other completed homework tasks. This will be an area we will be promoting in class this year and we will be rewarding children weekly who have read a minimum of 5 times. Whilst the likes of David Walliams are great to read, please encourage your children (as we will do) to read a variety of books from a range of genres. We are lucky to have a well-stocked library with a huge selection of books so there are lots on offer and teachers are always on hand to help children with selecting a book should they need it.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if there's anything you or we need to know.

*Miss Ayers*

and the Badgers Team



BROUGHTON PRIMARY SCHOOL