



PARKSIDE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL
BADGER CLASS LETTER
TERMS 1 & 2



September, 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am incredibly excited and pleased to welcome to you Badger class. I hope you have all had a lovely and relaxed summer holiday and are ready for the year ahead.

We have so many wonderful things planned which include using natural resources found in our forest school to make paints as part of our Stone Age topic and making some Stone Age stew.

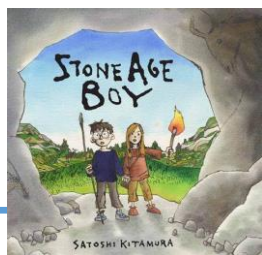
The children have already had a fantastic start to the year, working hard in lessons and showing me their amazing reading skills. I can see it is going to be a great year!

Term 1

In term 1 our topic is the Stone Age. In our English lessons, our key texts will be 'Stone Age boy' by Satoshi Kitamura and 'Who were the first people?' by Struan Reid. A mixture of fiction and non-fiction books exploring what life would have been like during the Stone Age.

In maths we will be recapping place value and use our knowledge to round numbers to the closest 10, 100 and 1000. We will also be focussing on recalling the 2, 4 and 8 times tables through games and peer learning.

Our science lessons are focussing on 'states of matter' where we will be conducting investigations and experiments to find out more about the properties of solids, liquids and gases.



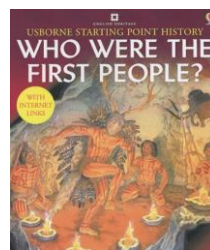
Term 2

After half term, our topic will be London where most of our learning will be centred on what it would be like to live in our capital city.

In English we will be reading the book 'Katie in London' by James Mayhew where the children will get the chance to be super creative and write their very own adventure story.

In maths we will be focussing on column addition and subtraction, using our knowledge of place value from Term 1.

For science, we will be learning about sound focusing on how to change pitch and volume by making our own instruments.



Attendance: I would like to take this opportunity to remind you how important good attendance is for optimum learning and progress. At Parkside, we aim for 95% attendance or more to ensure our best possible learning is able to take place. It is also important that children arrive to school on time so they start their day in the best possible way and are ready to start their learning with the rest of their class.

Uniform:

This is a reminder that all children should be wearing the correct school uniform. This consists of: Parkside School jumper so children can take pride in our school logo (or a navy jumper/cardigan), a white shirt or blouse, grey/black trousers or a skirt (or shorts/summer dress when it is warmer) and black school shoes.

Reading

Over the next few weeks, the children will each be given a reading book and reading record to be taken home every day. As a school, we are promoting reading for pleasure, something that I know many of the children are excited about. We encourage the children to read daily both inside and out of school. Please can I ask that when your child has finished their book you write in their reading record and return the book to school ready for a new book to be issued. Thank you for your ongoing support with this, it will have a huge impact on your child's progress.

Times Tables

I would like to take this opportunity to talk about times tables. At the end of Year 4, children are tested on all of their times tables so I am encouraging everyone to practice as often as they can. All children will be given their TT Rockstars log in again, a site which can be accessed from computers, phones and tablets. This is a great way for the children to practice with lots of games and friendly competition. The children will be tested weekly on a Friday morning.

PE

PE will be on a Wednesday and Friday, children should come to school in their PE uniform; blue/navy shorts, their coloured PE top and sensible shoes for sports.

Homework

The children will be set times tables and spellings on a Friday to practise at home so they are ready for a short test the following Friday. Children are also expected to read at home at least five times a week.

REACH for the Stars



Healthy snack and lunches

All children are offered a bagel during their morning break.

If children wish to bring their own snacks in from home, this must be either fruit or veggie sticks.

Packed lunches should also be healthy e.g. a sandwich, yoghurt, a piece of fruit and a snack bar.

If you have any questions or anything you wish to discuss with me, please make an appointment at the school office or speak to me after school.

Mrs Fell
Year 4 Class teacher,
Science and RE Lead.