

Welcome to Badgers Class  
Year 4/5

Welcome back to school!

We are delighted to have all your children back in school and are very much looking forward to getting to know them.

It is really important to us that your child settles into school and feels happy coming into class.



# Class Teachers

Mrs Pinkney (Monday & Tuesday)



Mrs Walsh (Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.)



# Teaching Assistants

Our class TA is Mrs Cook.



We also have support from Mrs Oke.



# Value of Friendship



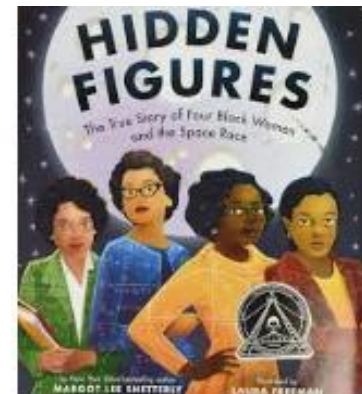
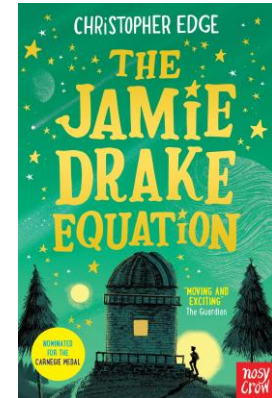
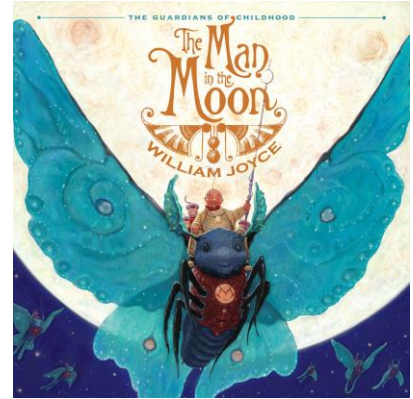
Our first value this term is 'Friendship' As the children in our class have come from various different classes, we encourage them to make new friends as well as nurturing their current friendships. We will be discussing friendships and how it is good to make new friends without forgetting our old friends.

# 'Earth and Space'

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Our topic this term is 'Earth and Space' which focuses on Science - learning about the planets, time zones and the history of space travel.

We will be reading lots of books about space, focusing on the picture book 'Man in the Moon,' Hidden Figures - The Space Race and 'The Jamie Drake Equation.'



# Growth Mindset

We like to encourage the use of a 'growth mindset' in class. This means that we encourage the children to enjoy challenge and understand that mistakes can be opportunities for learning. This helps build the children's resilience.

**THE POWER OF YET!**

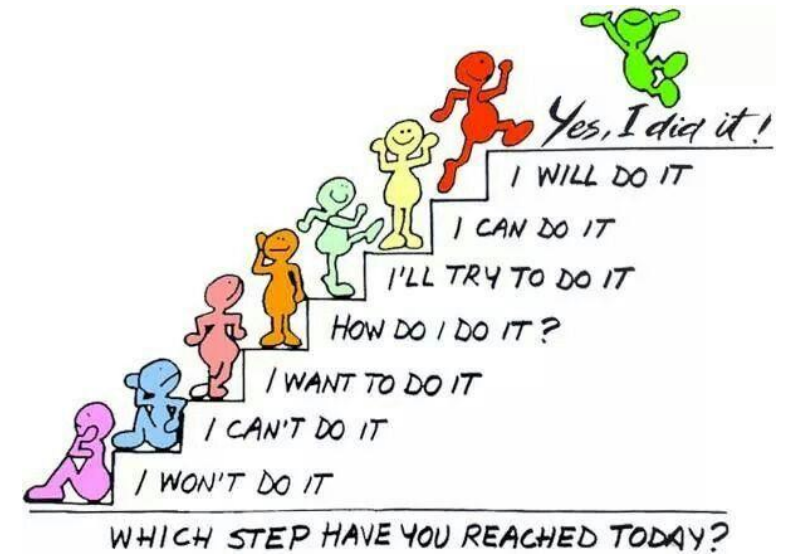


I can't do this ..... **YET**  
I'm not good at this ..... **YET**  
I don't understand this ... **YET**  
It doesn't work ..... **YET**  
This doesn't make sense ... **YET**

## FIXED vs. GROWTH MINDSET



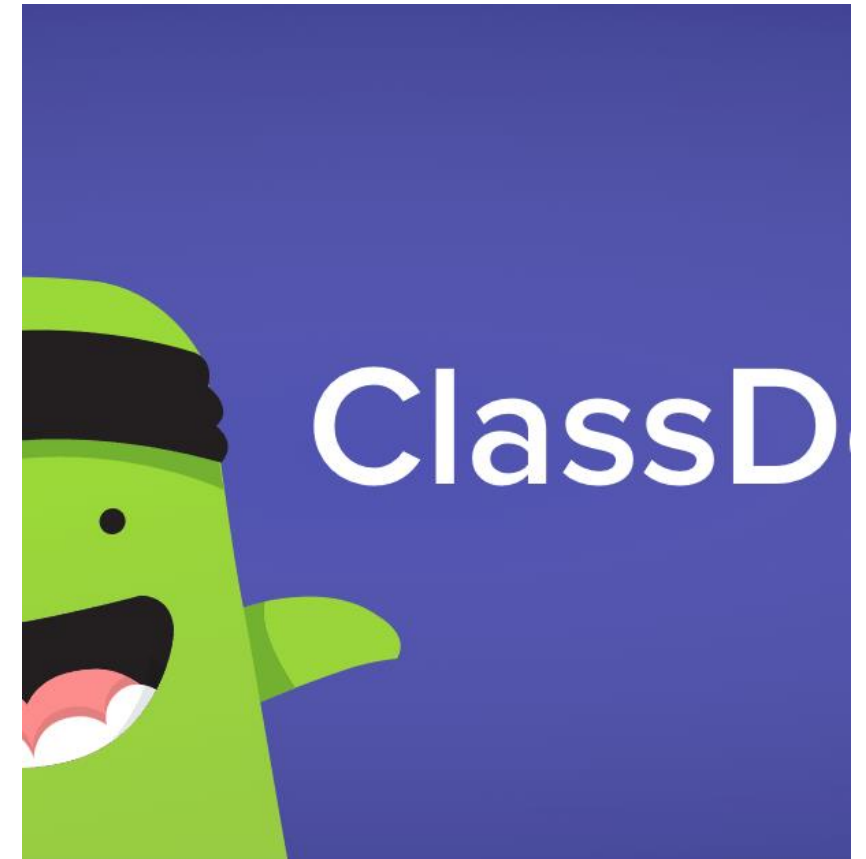
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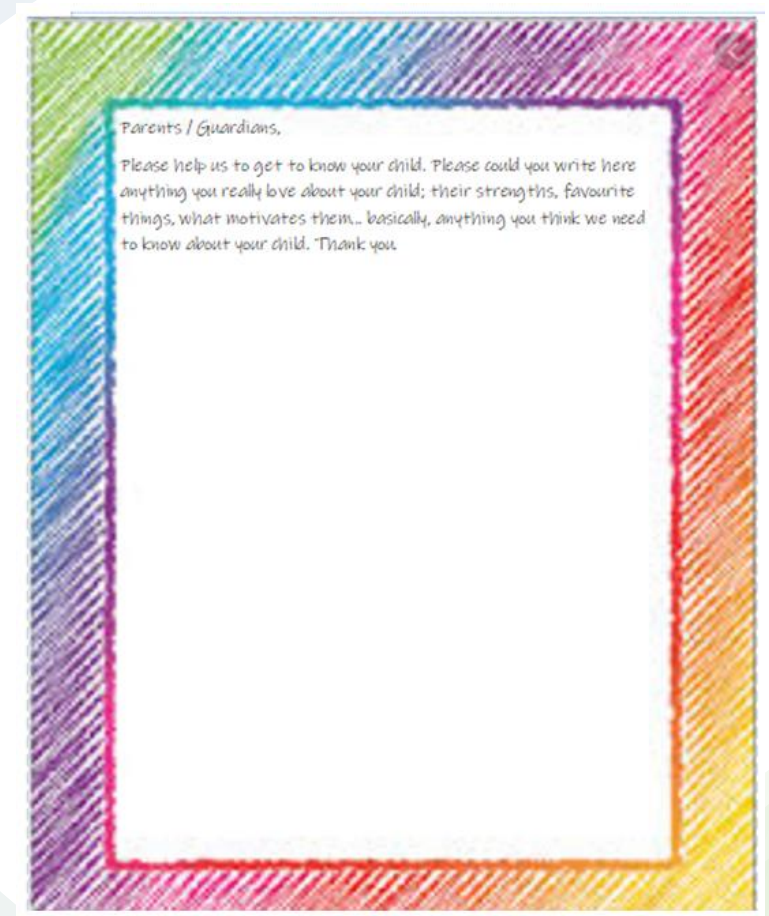
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We have set up the new Badgers class on Class Dojo as it is a brilliant way of keeping in touch. Please ensure that you have signed up to Class Dojo as it is a great way to share reminders and the things we do in class!

Please message us on this if necessary at reasonable times. Please remember that when we are teaching (or on our non-working days), we may not be able to respond straight away!



We really want to get to know your children.  
We will be sending this home. Could you please return it by sending it into school with your child? You can put it in an envelope if you have written anything you don't want your child to read. This will really help us to understand how your child ticks, which is extremely important to us. We will also upload this on Dojo but you can just write on a piece of paper if that's easier.



Parents / Guardians,

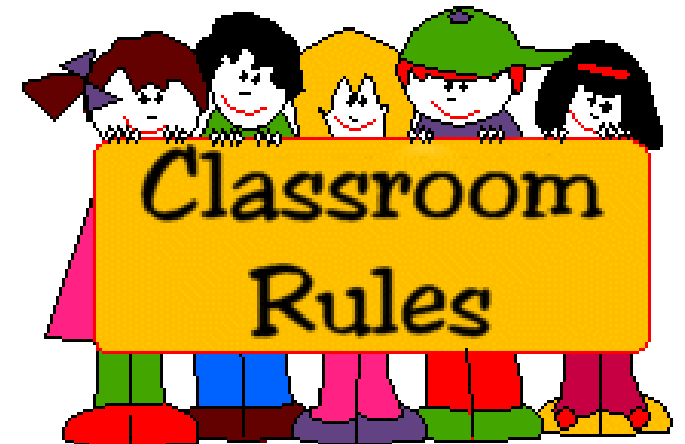
Please help us to get to know your child. Please could you write here anything you really love about your child; their strengths, favourite things, what motivates them... basically, anything you think we need to know about your child. Thank you.



# Class agreements

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- We have created a class charter based on children's rights and responsibilities. Your child has helped make decisions about how we behave in school. This 'expected behaviour' is displayed in our classroom and will be referred to regularly.



I have a right to 	I have a responsibility to 
1 learn	1 do my best
2 be heard	2 listen to others
3 be safe	3 look out for others
4 be respected	4 treat others with respect
5 use school property	5 respect school property

# Rewards

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We use a 'Recognition Board' to list children who behave brilliantly. We are looking for children who go 'over and above.' Each Friday one child showing all the values will be chosen for 'Hot Chocolate Friday.'



CHOOSE  
kindness



# Celebrating Achievements

We love hearing about the children's successes outside of school as well. The children can bring in any certificates, trophies, medals or things they are proud of to show in our celebration assembly on Friday morning.

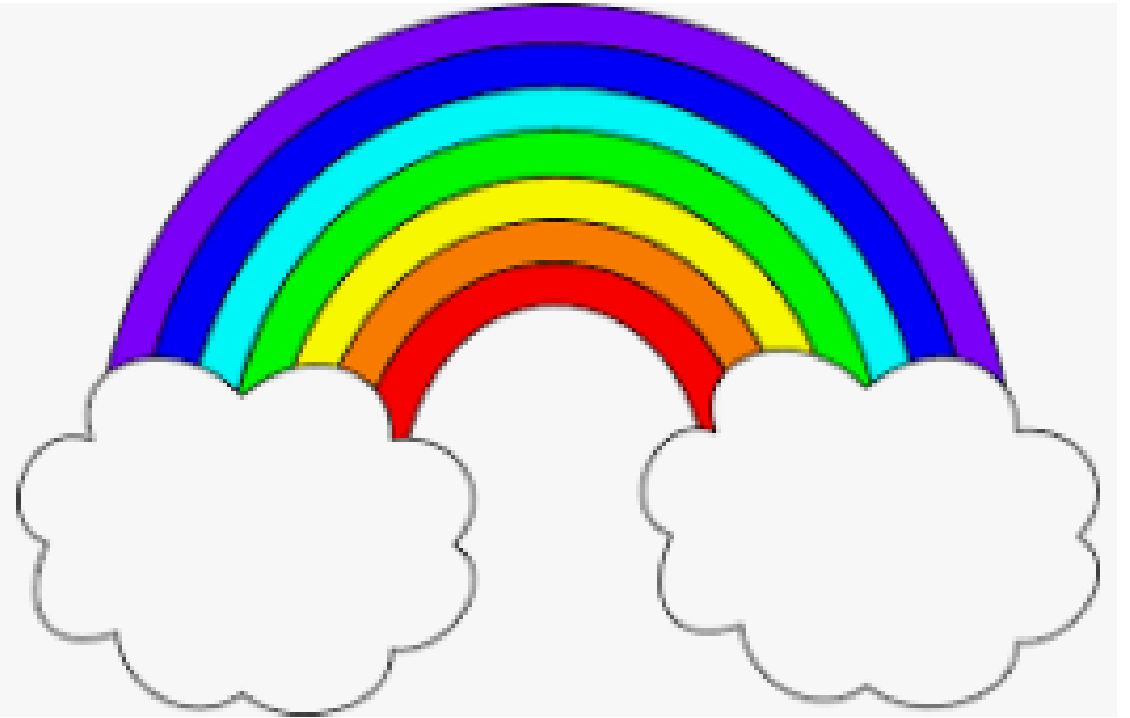


# Reading at home

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Please listen to your child read regularly at home and record this in your child's reading record.

We will continue to use 'Rainbow Reading' this year. Your child will have a coloured bookmark - each time you read, please initial this. When your child has 20 reads they will receive a prize and then be given the next colour to complete.



# Homework

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- Homework is given out at the beginning of each term, which allows plenty of time to complete the tasks. Children's work / creations will be shared and celebrated on Class Dojo.
- Spellings will be given out on Mondays and tested on Mondays. We won't start this straight away.
- The children will also be given a termly list of Y3/4 or 5/6 words to learn. We will learn this in school as well but your help at home would be really valuable.
- Children will also be expected to continue to learn their times tables. Please use TT Rockstars at home regularly to improve speed of recall. Year 4 will complete a statutory times table assessment in the summer term.
- Please read regularly (at least 3-4 times per week) with your child and discuss what they have read. Reading aloud and discussion of books is still vitally important as your child becomes more fluent with their reading.

## Homework at Haydon Wick Primary School

At Haydon Wick we have four golden threads which are woven through all we do and all the teaching decisions we make.

We are a values-based school and we have 22 core values we focus on but at the heart of our values we have the 3R's – Respect, Resilience and Responsibility.

With these golden threads and core values at the heart of everything we do we have considered our homework and have developed a clear plan of our expectations for the year 2023 – 2024.



### Weekly Expectations

Each week we expect the children to:

- Read to an adult at least 3 times a week and record this in the reading record.
- Practise spellings 3x a week (weekly spellings tested on Mondays)
- Play on TTRS – 3 times per week for Year 4s. Year 5s – once a week to maintain knowledge and increase speed of recall if they already know their tables up to 12x12, more often if they don't.

Practising reading, spellings and playing on TTRS will help develop our children in English and Maths and help them to become lifelong learners who have the skills knowledge, and curiosity needed to take full advantage of every opportunity in life. Talking about their reading or having discussions about spellings and their meanings or how they can be used in sentences will help ensure our children's *language* is developed.

### Pick and Mix Homework

At Haydon Wick we also set Pick and Mix homework once a term. We aim to send these out before the holidays or in the first week of the new term to ensure sufficient time to complete it. We believe this homework enriches our children allowing them to gain further knowledge of the topics in school. We feel that the pick and mix style homework is *inclusive* as it allows every child to achieve and demonstrate their own potential and gives children *responsibility* in choosing the homework style which suits them best.

We expect ALL children to complete **at least 1 activity** from the pick and mix offer. If they have a different idea, related to our learning, that they wish to pursue then they are more than welcome to do so – we embrace their creativity!

Children are *responsible* for making sure that the work they complete at home is consistent to the work we see from the child in class. We want everyone to try their best and be proud of what they have achieved!

Parents will be invited into school to share and celebrate this homework and have a discussion about what the class have been learning.

We hope you all understand our vision for homework. We look forward to seeing wonderful work from the children this year and sharing this with all our parents.

## The Importance of Reading at Home Information for Parents



Reading improves student concentration.



Reading helps students develop language skills.



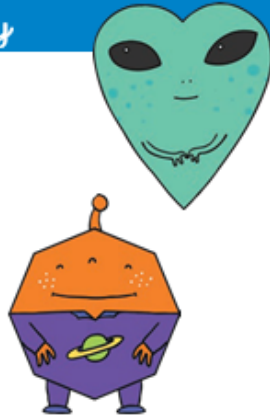
Reading fosters curiosity about the world we live in.



Reading helps students do better in all school subjects.

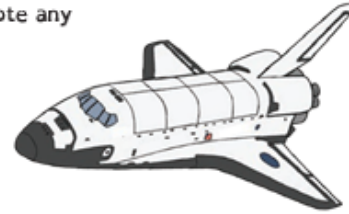
## Numeracy

- Draw a space scene using only 2D shapes.
- Create some space-themed word problems.
- Work out the distance of each planet from the sun in miles, kilometres, and metres.



## Out and About!

- Build and launch a rocket. What did you do?
- Visit your local library. Find some non-fiction books about space.
- Observe the night sky and note any constellations you see.
- Research constellations.



## English

- Write a space adventure themed poem or story.
- Write a poem/story about an alien visiting Earth.
- Write an acrostic poem for a planet.
- Write a newspaper report on the Moon landing.
- Read a novel with a space theme.



## Working with Others

- Create a space-themed board or card game, and teach friends or family members how to play.
- Work with a friend or family member to design an alien. Draw and label any unique features.
- Create a mnemonic to help friends or family members remember the order of the planets.
- Make up a space quiz! You need to know the answers!



## Pick and Mix Homework Earth & Space Due: Friday 13th October

*If you have your own ideas, please feel free to do that instead.*

## Art

- Create a painting or drawing of a space scene using your choice of materials.
- Ask your friends and family to help you create a list with as many song titles that have space-themed words in them (i.e. star, rocket, planet, moon).
- Write a space rap or song.



## Science and Technology

- Find out and write down ten amazing facts about space travel.
- Make a rocket with a parachute to aid re-entry.
- Create a space mobile to hang in the classroom.
- Use Quiz in Purple Mash to create a quiz about space.



## Health and Wellbeing

- Find and make a space-themed recipe.
- What ten things would you take with you on a trip to outer space? Write a list and give a reason for each object.
- Complete a labelled diagram showing the effects that space has on an astronaut's body.
- Astronauts need to be healthy. Create a workout and share.



## Social Studies

- Write a fact file on Neil Armstrong or another famous astronaut.
- Create a timeline of space travel and exploration events.
- What countries have put astronauts into space? Mark them on a map.





# P.E.

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- Badgers class has PE on Mondays/Tuesdays (depending on availability of the playground- sometimes we have to switch days so please ensure PE kits are in school every day) and Wednesdays.
- Please can the children bring in a named PE bag and named items of kit at the start of the term. These will be taken home at the end of each term to wash. If you prefer to do this more regularly, or they have a sports club, please ensure the kit is back in school ready for PE days.
- Please can you ensure that on PE days the children do not wear earrings unless they can remove them by themselves (or use tape to cover them) and that they have their hair tied up or bring a hair band to school.



# Handwriting

Across the school, we use cursive handwriting.

The font we use is called Letter-join.

In cursive handwriting, all lowercase letters start from the line and are joined.

# Jumpers & cardigans

- Please ensure your children's clothing is named clearly as it is hard to tell them apart!
- Please can they have clearly named water bottles in school. They are welcome to bring water bottles into the classroom and refill them throughout the day.



# Pencil cases

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- Children do not require a pencil case in school as we provide them with the necessary equipment. They each have a pack in their trays with all the equipment they will need.



# Keeping safe online

Keep safe by staying SMART online:

- S SAFE** Keep safe by being careful not to give out your personal information to people online.
- M MEETING** Meeting someone you have only been in touch with online can be dangerous.
- A ACCEPTING** Accepting emails or opening files, pictures or texts from people you don't know can lead to problems.
- R RELIABLE** Remember that people online may not be who they say they are, and so online friends are really strangers.
- T TELL** Tell your parent or carer if someone or something makes you feel uncomfortable or worried.

To find out why the SMART rules are important visit [www.chatdanger.com](http://www.chatdanger.com). Help others to see how to stay SMART online by downloading and using the rotating SMART banner free from this site.

# Keeping safe online

- For messaging safely online please can the children use Purple Mash.



# Fun ways to learn!

- Times tables songs (lots of good ones on YouTube)
- Times Tables Rockstars
- Play educational games - Brainbox have a good range.
- Purple Mash



Many thanks for reading this information.

We look forward to working closely with you as a team to support your child's learning.