

Dear Families,

There have been lots of lovely activities happening this week in school, particularly the smell of freshly baked samosas!

We are very pleased to announce that long After School Club has been saved by the amazing Mrs Heap, who will cover until July 2023; we are very fortunate to have such supportive staff. From next September we will be outsourcing our club to The Big A Club, already used by several schools in the Blue Kite Trust. They will be able to offer spaces until 6pm which we know will be well received.

We are keen to invite visitors into school assemblies to share things with the children. If your child attends a club, e.g. Ice Hockey or similar, please let us know if the club would like to visit school.

Can I remind Year 3 parents that children should be in school for 8.45am each day. If you arrive late and the line has already gone into school, please bring your child to the office. Children should not be left unattended on the playground.

We are very aware that the cost of living is affecting all of us and with this in mind, letters will be sent out ahead of any trips to gauge whether parents are prepared and able to pay the

full cost. If parents can not commit to trips then they will not go ahead. Donations towards our recent trip to The Richard Jefferies Museum were very low and the School has had to pay the difference; we cannot sustain this moving forward.

We hope to see lots of faces at the Christmas Fayre tomorrow and looking forward to welcoming parents to our Open House, Christmas singalong and Reception and Nursery Nativities in the weeks to come.



Mrs Dance

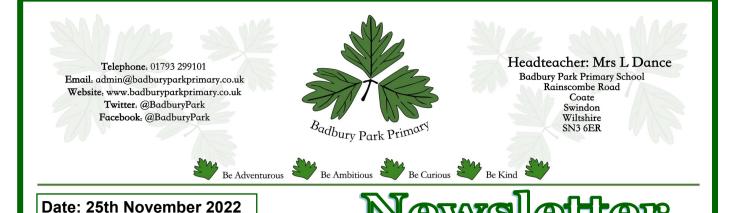
<u>Nursery:</u> This week, Apple Tree have been learning all about birthdays! We have role played birthday parties and made a shopping list, talking about all of the things we could use for our party. The children have made birthday cards for their friends, practising writing their name. We made birthday cupcakes in the cookery room and learned all about number 3!







On our welly walk, we practised our gross motor skills kicking the football and playing fire engines!



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Reception This week Ash and Oak Tree have been reading the story 'Owl Babies' and learning all about owls. We have made owls using chocolate scented playdough and created an owl babies picture using bubble wrap, foam, paint and googly eyes. The children have really enjoyed retelling the story using small world figures and story spoons, pretending to be the different owls from the story.

Our word for this week has been 'nocturnal' and the children have been finding out which animals are nocturnal. We have been looking at different homes people live in around the world and in our construction area we have been busy building homes for our friends and for the owl babies.

We have also been practising our nativity and the children's singing is fantastic! We can't wait for you to come and watch it in a few weeks.



<u>Year 1/2</u>. In Year 1, we have been subtracting using a number line. We had a camp fire at Forest School and enjoyed hot chocolate and toasted marshmallows—we got very very muddy!

Year 1 have also been making samosas this week as part of Design Technology. We had good fun tasting them first and deciding how much spice to add in. We enjoyed being in the cookery room

spice to add in. We enjoyed being in the cookery room making and evaluating our own samosas and finally eating them! Delicious!



Year 2 have been incredible scientists this week; we have planned our very own investigation to see what would happen to different coins when we put them in different liquids for 24 hours. We made predictions and then recorded our results! Year 2 have also been working hard learning how to add two, two-digit numbers together this week.

During our forest school afternoon we put our team building skills to good use and worked together to build our own dens.





<u>Year 3</u>: Our wonderful learners in Maple Tree Class have been exploring the topic of climate change in our Education for Social Responsibility lessons. The children have been learning about the causes of climate change, how it affects the planet and identifying ways of encouraging people to take positive steps to reduce climate change. In Spanish, we are learning various instructions such as 'listen', 'sit down' and 'let's begin' – this has come in very handy! For Geography, the children are using sketch maps to explore human features in the local area of Badbury Park. Moving forward, we will look at using a key on a map and how to use a map and atlas to describe land use.

Our English has seen us explore different myths, comparing different versions of the same myth and the various features which make it a unique genre. Finally, in Maths we have continued learning about column addition and subtraction as we enter the territory of learning to exchange. The children have made such good progress with this concept and it has been a joy watching this light bulb moment occur as it unlocks many mathematical doors for them!





Raring2go! Swindon Winter digital magazine

Click on the link below to access the winter edition of Raring2Go, a digital magazine which features ideas of activities to do with your children during the winter months as well puzzles, recipes and articles for all the family.

https://magazines.raring2go.co.uk/swindon/winter2022/

School Council

We will shortly be introducing a school council for Years 1, 2 and 3 which will be led by Mr Adkins. A school council is a formal group of pupils who are elected by their peers to act as representatives of their classmates in discussing school issues with staff. They help to make decisions about how the school is run and take on projects that support learning and development, such as organising charity events, representing the school at outside events or ensuring the school is environmentally friendly. A school council does a number of things:

A school council usually meets with a teacher present to discuss and sort out problems. These could include school lunches, behaviour or ideas for fundraising events.

Members of the school council are responsible for carrying out the ideas that have been agreed upon, such as planning discos, writing newspaper articles, or meeting with catering staff.

School council reps are elected to represent the views of pupils and also to improve their school. We will be asking any child who is interested to prepare a short speech to deliver to their class. The speech should include reasons why they would be a good school councillor e.g., good listener, creative ideas etc and perhaps any specific ideas they have to help improve the school.

The speeches will be delivered in class next week. Four children from each class with the most votes (voted by their peers) will go through to the next round where they will perform their speeches again to Mr Adkins and other members of the Senior Leadership Team. Of the four children selected from each class, two will be chosen to be School Councillors and two will be chosen to be Eco Ambassadors (more info will follow about Eco Ambassadors).

Our Voice counts....



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Be Adventurous



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School Diary

November 2022

1st : Start of term 2
2nd: Individual school photos
14th: Odd socks Day
14th-18th: Anti-bullying week
16th : School Tour 10.30
17th: Nasal Flu Clinic in school
18th: Children In Need
25th : School tour at 11.00
26th : Christmas Fayre 1pm-4pm

December 2022

Be Ambitious Be Curious Be Kind

7th & 8th YR Christmas production
8th: Christmas jumper day
12th: Christmas singalong at 2pm—Y1, Y2 and Y3
15th: Christmas party (am)
15th : Christmas lunch—whole school
15th: Open House—parents are invited in to school from 2pm
16th: Last day of term 2 (3pm/3.15pm finish)
19th Dec—3rd Jan: School Holiday

January 2023

3rd January : TD day—no school for pupils 4th January: Start of term 3. All children return to school

9th January : Curriculum meetings at 5pm Reception-Y3

Teacher Training Days 2022/2023

- Tuesday 3rd January 2023
- Friday 7th July 2023

School closure day

* Thursday 4th May 2023 (Polling Day)