



Butler Class Autumn Term 2024



Welcome back to school! We hope you have all had a lovely Summer break with your family and friends and are ready for a busy and exciting year in Butler Class. Your teacher this year will be Mrs Bravington. We also have Mrs Killian who will be supporting us. We are looking forward to all the brilliant things we will be doing this term. We hope you continue to shine brightly!

P.E.

Our PE lessons will be on a Tuesday afternoon. Please make sure you come into school wearing your PE kit (red T shirt, black or blue shorts, trainers or plimsoles.) For safety, you need a pair of appropriate PE shoes to take part in outdoor PE lessons. Long hair is to be tied back and earrings are to be removed.

School Timetable

Monday:

Science and PSHE afternoon in whole year classes.

Tuesday:

Come into school wearing your PE Kit.

- **Homework** You should spend 15 minutes on Spelling Shed, TTRS and practising your spellings daily. New spellings will be shared on Class Dojo every Friday.
- **Reading:** Try to read for at least 10 minutes a day and talk about the books you are reading. Ask your parents to ask you questions about what you are reading as this will help to improve your reading comprehension, which we are working on in class. Remember to bring your reading book and Reading Together book to school every day. Books will be changed once children have finished their book and they have completed their Accelerated Reader Quiz.
- **Spellings:** Remember to keep practising your spelling patterns to help with your spelling test on a Friday!

Remember: Everyday, you should bring your reading book inside your plastic homework wallet as well as your water bottle.



Butler Class Autumn Term Curriculum



To keep up-to-date with what we are learning in class, please log on to Dojo and our class web page at:

<https://www.st-hilds.durham.sch.uk/class-pages/> where you will find photographs of all the fun learning we are doing.

- Maths: This term we will be developing our understanding of the place value of 3-digit and 4-digit numbers, how to partition, order and compare them. In our calculation work, we will be developing mental and written strategies to add and subtract 3-digit and 4-digit numbers. In the second half-term we will be learning about multiplication and division of numbers up to 100. Throughout the school year children will have more of a focus on their times tables knowledge, as by June 2025, children in Year 4 are expected to know all of their times tables up to 12 x 12 and there will be a compulsory formal times table check. For more information I recommend visiting <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiplication-tables-check-information-for-parents/multiplication-tables-check-information-for-parents-text-version--2>, which explains more.
- English: This term we will be writing recounts, newspaper reports, setting descriptions, character descriptions as well as persuasive pieces of writing. This will link with our class text 'The Nothing To See Here Hotel' by Steven Butler. We will continue to work on our spelling, grammar and punctuation and improve our handwriting by practising correct letter formation from our cursive scheme. In reading, we will be working on developing a range of strategies to read with fluency and expression as well as developing our comprehension skills to answer a range of questions about different types of texts.
- Science: See next page for further information.
- RE: In RE, we'll be learning about Hindu beliefs and practices. We will explore Hindu gods, the concept of Brahman and how these ideas are shown through statues (murtis). We'll also look at how Hindus in Britain practice their faith at home and in their communities. Finally, we will think about how these beliefs relate to the value of rituals and how people are valued in the world today.
- History: Our topic for this term is The Maya. We will be investigating who the Mayans were and what impact they made on society.
- Geography: This term we will be investigating our local area. We will be completing field work investigations as well as having the opportunity to develop our map skills. We will be carrying out field surveys and data collections and understand of the type of landmarks we see in different areas.
- Computing: In Computing, we'll learn how digital devices work, including inputs, outputs, and processes. We will explore different devices, design our own and see how we use technology daily. We'll also look at how computers connect in networks and share information, learning about key parts like switches and servers.
- PE: In PE this autumn, we will first work with an SSP coach in gymnastics to develop our own routines, focusing on coordination, control, and strength. Later in the term, we'll explore dance, where we will respond to different stimuli, create and perform dance phrases and work independently and with partners to express ideas through movement. We'll also learn to evaluate our work and set personal goals.
- Art and Design: In Art, we'll explore the work of Lucian Freud, focusing on portraits and self-portraits. We will learn about Freud's life, analyse his art, and compare different works to understand his style. We'll practice drawing techniques, such as shading and proportion, to create our own portraits. We will also reflect on our work and that of our peers, discussing what we like and how we can improve.
- DT: We will be exploring the use of mechanisms including levers and linkages. We will be exploring what levers and linkages are to design and create our very own moving picture.
- Music: Throughout the term, we will be working alongside Mrs Hughes to develop our understanding of playing a musical instrument as well as develop our musical knowledge and vocabulary.

Science Curriculum

On Monday afternoons, Year 3, Year 4, and Year 5 students will have separate science lessons in their year groups. This helps us focus on the specific science topics and objectives for each year group, ensuring a tailored and thorough learning experience for everyone.

In Year 3, in Autumn Term 1a, we'll explore how to group different foods and understand the importance of a balanced diet. We will compare animal skeletons, describe the human skeleton and observe how it changes from birth to adulthood. We'll investigate whether taller children have bigger feet and learn about the roles of muscles, tendons, ligaments and the skeleton's function. In Autumn term 1b, we will also engage in mini enquiries about light and shadows. We'll explore how to make shadows larger using shadow puppets, recognise how shadows are formed and change and identify natural versus artificial light sources. Additionally, we'll test which sunglasses best protect eyes from harmful sunlight, investigate which materials reflect the most light and understand how reflective surfaces help us be seen.

In Year 4, in autumn term 1a, we'll learn about taste buds and salivary glands and describe the functions of teeth. We'll also identify and classify the organs of the digestive system, understand how food is digested and explain the roles of producers, consumers, and decomposers. In autumn term 1b, we will be learning about states of matter. We will study the three states of matter and investigate how temperature affects these states. We will explore processes like diluting and dissolving and understand evaporation and condensation.

