

# NEWSLETTER

## for Blackwell First School- Nursery



Please visit our class page for weekly updates: <http://www.blackwellfirstschool.com/index.php/news/nursery-news>

We hope you all had a lovely half term break. It was such a long half term and the children did so well in settling into routines of their new nursery life. The next half term is by far the most exciting with the approach of Christmas! This half term our topics are: Remembrance, Tell me a Story (Bears) and Winter/Christmas.

What a team of mark makers we have this year! Using a "tripod grip" is part of Physical Development that we work on all year!



The coloured chalks have been a huge hit around the Forest School. Look at this "tripod grip"!

### STAFFING

Due to the tightening of bubbles across the school to eliminate staff moving between different bubbles, we have sadly had to say goodbye to Miss Bailey as she moves into Year 3. However, we are now lucky enough to have Mrs Franklin for longer days!

### FUNDED HOURS

Mrs Bailey and I have started checking paperwork for Spring Term 2021. If you are interested in adding any extra days in January, please do let me know by Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November.

### INVOICES

The invoices for the Autumn Term 2020 will be raised once the whole term is completed and so will be coming out to you in January 2021. With so many changes to the children's days, pick up times and additional days we have learnt this is the easiest way. This invoice will be for any lunches attended, fruit/vegetable snacks (two per day) and any additional hours attended that aren't covered by your "claimed" hours.

### ALL THINGS CHRISTMAS

Our very own little elves have been busy creating personal Christmas cards for you to purchase for family and friends. An order form came out to you before half term. We are filming for the Christmas DVD on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December. If your little one does not attend on this day, please do let me know if you want them be part of this production. ☺

### HAPPY TO CHAT

It was lovely to chat to all of you over the phone before half term. It is always a good opportunity to catch up and find out more about what they are like at home. If you do have any questions, queries or concerns (however small!), please do email. Mrs Mander, Mrs Allen, Mrs Franklin and Miss Checkley

### INDOOR CIRCLE TIMES

#### Speaking and Listening

We move on to a new listening rule this half term ~ "Staying Quiet". We will be playing lots of games where the children need to keep their lips together for the game to work. This is always a difficult one for children so young!

#### Mathematics

We keep our numbers low in the Nursery to ensure children gain a sound understanding to apply later through school life. Although we do talk/sing a lot about numbers to 10 and beyond, we focus initially on numbers 1-5. Being able to read, count and collect them is only part of the process; we still need to split them, arrange them in different ways, compare them e.g. more/less, spot them in other ways e.g. actions and move on to subitising (seeing them without the need for 1:1 tap and say number name).

#### Communication and Language

We use a weekly Nursery Rhyme and have fun with it e.g. change the words, act it out, change the character in the rhyme. Our daily Phonics is the start of their reading journey. By the end of this Autumn term we will have covered Environmental Sounds and Instrumental Sounds. We are then "tuned in" to hearing sounds around us and so ready for Rhyme and Alliteration in the Spring term.

#### Write Dance and Dough Dance

We are now managing to fit in both a Write Dance and Dough Disco session every day. Write Dance uses music and movement to introduce handwriting to children. Our session begins with a song/dance using big arm movements and then using the same song, we mark make in different media. Dough Disco is exercise for the arms, wrists, hands and fingers to improve fine muscle control needed for handwriting. We use familiar and popular disco music which the children choose and really enjoy. ☺