

# NEWSLETTER for Blackwell First School

Dear Families,



Blackwell First School,  
St. Catherine's Rd.,  
Blackwell,  
Near Bromsgrove,  
Worcestershire.  
B60 1BN

A fantastic spider, a fairy garden, handwriting and maths practice or musical spoons. It is all going on!



Welcome back to the Summer Term. I hope that Easter was a peaceful and relatively uneventful time for everyone and that you are all safe and well.

As we embark on the summer term at a challenging time for you all, the school, our nation and the wider world, we aim to work with you to provide some routine in the daily lives of the children which will help you all.

We will continue to post messages and issue daily home learning on the parentapp and teachers will be in touch with you each week. Please email [office@blackwell.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:office@blackwell.worcs.sch.uk) with general enquiries and the school office has a member of staff working if you need to call between 9am-3pm.

We really look forward to opening school again, but in the meantime, we are very grateful for the routine and support you are all providing for the children. Thank you.



April 2020



## Easter for 'Stay at Home superheroes' and 'In School superheroes'

### Picture Perfect... a surprise for you all.

There's a gift for every class and look at the special stamp and seal. It's a special gift exclusive to the children at Blackwell First School. Each class, including Nursery, has a gift like this that has been delivered to the teachers and they will share what is inside with you and your children on their class newsletters and via their parentapp messages. When the children find out what is inside their parcel, they will also be introduced to a painting that links with the book and these two works of cultural heritage will help them learn this half term and lead to a project 'Picture Perfect'. This was to be an art exhibition in the hall, but will instead be a virtual art exhibition on the website and parentapp. In school, we use these projects as a means of motivating the children towards a goal and this half term will be no exception, albeit a little alternative.

### Welcome to our PICTURE PERFECT art exhibition

Date: w/b18.5.20  
Time: All day online  
Venue: parentapp and website under 'School News'

Entries- please enter this art exhibition with a photograph of your work as explained by your teacher by 15.5.20  
Email it to [office@blackwell.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:office@blackwell.worcs.sch.uk) and Mrs Tomlinson will forward the photographs from you to the teachers.

Enjoy reading the new class book with your child.

A Child  
A Child  
This is the way the mind grows  
Not with a test but a tale.  
Happy reading from Mrs Moss x



### Staffing

We are delighted to announce that our staffing team will remain stable for next year. Mrs Dudek and Mrs Thompson have been at home for a little while with their little ones but we are pleased that they will be returning to school for more hours next year. We wish Miss Gardner well as she is expecting a baby in the autumn and wait to hear how she gets on (she has a few teddies to make first!)  
We thank everyone for their wonderful work and cheerfulness this year, especially during this challenging time. I will keep you informed of new appointments if and when they are made.

### SCHOOL DIRECT – TRAIN TO TEACH

If you know someone who would like to train to teach, please let them know that they can train with us through Bromsgrove Primary Teaching School Alliance and can email [office@bptsa.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:office@bptsa.worcs.sch.uk)  
This option of School Direct training is only available to candidates who already hold a degree and is a one year full time programme or two year part time programme.

### COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

After the Easter break, the children would normally be learning to APPRECIATE the world around them, considering people, places, the natural world and man made wonders.  
We would start the week by considering the value of authors and will launch a new set of class books via teachers in classes.  
The children would consider tolerance and appreciation of others and how books help us learn about the wider world. The children would also learn about how special places are appreciated by people around the world. This is a particularly interesting concept as our worlds have shrunk into our homes.  
We will send home a Collective Worship, in case you would like a few quiet moments to reflect.

Mrs A Moss (headteacher)

### SCHOOL SPORT/ HEALTH AND THE ARTS

Artsmark- After achieving the prestigious Artsmark Platinum in 2016, we have reapplied for this award that reflects the school's work on the arts. Our focus is music this time and we aimed to show the excellent work of the whole school.  
The application process has been extended as a result of COVID-19 and we will submit our application in the autumn term.

### Payment for Schools on line payment

With the exception of Nursery, who are currently unable to pay on P4S, we are asking families to use our P4S system as much as possible to ease the work involved in handling cash in the school office. Banking arrangements have changed and P4S is considerably more flexible for the office staff. If you need a PIN, please ask the office. 0121 445 1622 or email [office@blackwell.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:office@blackwell.worcs.sch.uk)

### Forest School Clothing

No matter what the weather is doing, please dress the children in long sleeved tops and trousers for time in our Forest School or when taking walks in the woods. With deer living in our Forest School, it is important that we minimise the risk of contracting Lyme Disease.  
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/lyme-disease/>  
Thank you.

### Dates

All dates are currently postponed

New school allocations will be issued as per planned national dates.  
Internal induction for both Nursery and Reception will be issued on our website as and when we are directed to reopen.  
If we do not reopen in time for planned induction dates, we will plan some 'virtual' and later dates prior to the children starting with us.

Yellow Class Family Assembly- Miss Phipps is planning an 'alternative' assembly through a newspaper. Watch out for further information.

For Year 4s- bellboating and residential trips are currently postponed. We will notify you of alternative dates for both and have provisionally booked dates during the summer holiday or a weekend in September, depending on when we are able to open.

Thank you.