

NEWSLETTER

for Blackwell First School- Purple Class



Hello and welcome back to a new half term in Purple Class. Last half term was a super start to the year and I can already see lots of progress in the children's learning. We finished the half term with a fantastic class assembly – I hope you enjoyed it and if you haven't seen it on YouTube, here is the link- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5mNmzarAKPs>. Thank you for chatting with me during Parent Consultations, it was great to share how well your child has settled back into school. This term will be busy as ever...take a look at some of the learning I've been busy planning for our topic *Tell me a story*.

TOPIC

In Geography, we will use an atlas to locate features of the UK such as countries and capital cities. The children will learn to identify physical features on a map such as rivers and mountains and then use compass directions to describe locations.



In Art, this half term our learning is about textiles. The children will explore the process of dip dyeing fabric and over-working it with rubbings of different materials. We will also create printing tiles and blocks to print on top of our dyed fabric.

In Science, we will be learning about animals including humans. We will be looking at the offspring of animals and humans, noticing that they grow into adults. We will find out and describe their basic needs for survival such as water, food and air. To complete the unit, we will also describe the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food and hygiene.

PSHE, Music, Computing, P.E and Philosophy for Children are taught each week throughout the year. See our 'Curriculum' page on the school website for more information.

All of our learning will end with a dog show inspired by the Hairy Maclary's showbusiness book. Hetty will of course be the star. We will write information about what a dog needs in science, make bunting with our textiles work and write letters and information in English

MATHS

Throughout this term, children will be encouraged to recall their number bonds to 10 and 20 fluently (e.g. 4+6, 14+6 etc.) and then apply this to other numbers up to 100. Children will also be expected to relate number bonds to subtraction facts to 20 e.g. $20 - 17 = 3$. We will also focus on learning halves and doubles up to double 20. These are essential in Year 2 and beyond and some help with this at home would be appreciated. (More Y2 mental maths expectations are listed on the homework sheet)

It is essential that children gain the mental maths skills before written methods are introduced.

This half term, we will also develop our knowledge of multiplication and division facts within the 2,5 and 10 times table and develop our understanding of fractions including writing halves, quarters and thirds in relation to numbers, quantities, shapes or lengths.

Should there be anything you wish to speak about, please do not hesitate to email the office at office@blackwell.worcs.sch.uk or telephone and leave a message for us and we will get back to you.

Thanks for your support,

Mrs James and the Purple Team



ENGLISH

The children will be reading Lynley Dodd's Hairy Maclary series as inspiration for our writing. Children will focus on writing clear full sentences in the same tense, using different punctuation as well as extending sentences using a variety of conjunctions (e.g. and, or, if, but, because, when). To add interest to our writing we will explore creating noun phrases using adjectives (e.g. the bold, strong dog). We will explore many reasons for writing such as letters to Lynley Dodd, invitations to the dog show, non-fiction writing about dogs and stories featuring Hetty.

Phonics, spelling, handwriting and 1:1 reading sessions will continue each week. This half term, the **current** guidance says children will sit the National Phonics screening check missed from June 2020. **Regular** reading is all the practice children need.



SPELLING

At school, we teach spelling throughout the curriculum as well as in a discrete phonics/spelling session each day. The national curriculum spelling expectations are very challenging and lots of children find spelling difficult. Here are the 'tricky/key' words that we will focus on this half term. You may like to explore them at home too.

because should could would every everybody even both most only old cold told gold hold Christmas

EXTRAS

- Due to bubble tightening and to ensure there are no staff members going between classes, we are extremely lucky to have Mrs Reid joining us from Yellow Class for the remainder of the year. We also welcome Miss Coyle who is training to become a teacher with us through our teaching school.
- Our Forest School day is now a **Monday** for the whole class to maximise staffing numbers.
- Our PE day is usually Wednesday but at times, may be other days. Please could children with long hair ensure they have a hair bobble in their bookbag if their hair is not always worn up and also a pair of socks if your child wears tights to school. Please name all items including hats and winter wear.
- A healthy morning snack or 30p to purchase from our tuck shop is required daily.