

# NEWSLETTER

## for Blackwell First School- Green Class



Welcome back! We can't believe we are into the final term of the year. It doesn't seem long ago since the children were new to Year 1 and now they are in their final term in Green Class. The children had a fantastic last half term and continue to grow as individuals and as learners. We are really proud of the progress they have made and it was lovely to share that with you at our Parent Consultations. This half term we have 2 topics which are: Castles and Health and Fitness. We look forward to 3 exciting events which are: our whole school trip to a real castle on 30<sup>th</sup> April, our Tudor Fayre on 17<sup>th</sup> May and our Family Sporting Morning on 25<sup>th</sup> May (all details will be sent home in due course). It's going to be a busy half term!

### English

We will start the half term by reading the story 'The Royal Dinner'. Children will use the skill of oral storytelling to aid their story writing. The writing focus will be on writing accurate sentences with capital letters, full stops and adding more detail by using adjectives to describe nouns such as **delicious** dinner. We will also use conjunctions to join clauses such as: The queen was happy **because** the cook made her fish for dinner. Spelling remains a whole school focus and children are becoming skilled at using our working wall and their spelling books to help them to spell unfamiliar words. Daily phonics will continue to focus on alternative ways of making the same sounds such as the way an e sound can be made with an e,ea,ey,ie, e-e and y! We also learn alternative pronunciations for the same grapheme such as ea can make different sounds in the words **sea** and **read**. There is a lot of technical jargon surrounding phonics and English grammar but the children use and understand the language phenomenally well and are building solid foundations for their understanding of language.

### Maths

We start the half term with consolidating our understanding of number by reading writing, comparing and representing numbers in different ways. We will also be using multiplication and division facts to solve problems in very practical and musical ways thanks to our new resources following our maths training last term. We will also be comparing, estimating, calculating and measuring the mass of objects. This lends itself well to our English text and Green Class will be making their own royal snack by weighing out ingredients.

### Homework

We continue to be amazed by the standard of homework children have been doing and really value your contribution at home. The children show a real sense of pride when sharing their work with others and where possible, we provide them with the opportunity to do so during our show and tell snack times.

Homework sheets remain **optional** but activities enable you to see the type of learning taking place within the classroom. It is recommended that children complete an activity from a different subject area each week. Efforts are celebrated with weekly certificates in our Gold Book assembly.

Reading at home has a **significant** impact on your child's reading progress. Please read as often as you can at home. Please remind your child to change their book themselves each morning and check it is the right colour. They can always come back at the end of the day if you see they have not changed it.

Also please value the importance of your reading to your child as well.



### Topic

**History** -We will start our topic sessions by finding out more about castles, why they were built and who lived in them. We will also compare castles to our modern homes and find out about the jobs people had inside a medieval castle. We will then investigate and research Tudor life including clothes and design and make a Tudor headpiece.

**DT** – During these sessions we will look closely at a variety of Tudor tools and design and create a Tudor catapult.

We will then evaluate our work and discuss how we could have improved our design and final product.

**Science** – This half term focuses on energy, forces and space.

We will recognise, describe and compare properties and effects of forces, such as the speed or direction of different objects.

We will also find out how some solid objects can be changed by squashing, bending, and twisting.



### Healthy lifestyles

**Snacks**- please send children to school with a healthy morning snack such as fruit or with money to purchase something from our tuck shop. (30p) Also send children into school with a named, empty, washed water bottle each day.

**Clothing**- As the weather changes (fingers crossed) please send the children to school with sun hats with names in and sun cream applied.

**Forest School**- Clubs have changed this term and Forest School now takes place as follows:

**Group 1- Monday, Group 2- Tuesday, Group 3- Wednesday, Group 4-Thursday, Group 5- Friday.**

Please ask your child what their new group number is as these may have changed.

If you wish to speak to us about anything, please see us after school or if it is a specific English or Maths concern please request an informal meeting with Mrs James in a morning on after school on Wednesdays.

Thanks you for your support,

Mrs James, Mrs Hampton, Mrs Morgan and Mrs Reid