

NEWSLETTER

for Blackwell First School- Red Class



Welcome back! This half term, we would like you to join us on a little adventure to **A Land Far Away** and all you need to pack is your imagination. As the rest of the school explore 'Baghdad AD 900', as their land and time far away, we will find out about magical, fantasy worlds while making references to the whole school topic. Our learning will help us to host a grand show with storytelling, dancing and singing for all to see. We will finish the half term with our **Easter** topic and Easter Coffee Morning, where families are invited to enjoy coffee and cake as they're serenaded by the children. I'm looking forward to sharing your child's progress and achievements at parent consultations on 14th and 15th March. Finally, thank you very much for your contributions to World Book Day. There were some real 'classics' and wonderful photos too! We will add the photos to the children's learning journeys. We also welcome and encourage photos of special events and achievements, from home, to add to your child's learning journey.



SLIPPERS

This half term, the children are wearing slippers in the classroom, just like their peers in the older classes. Our slippers help us to feel warm and comfortable and they also help us to look after and care for our classroom. The children are working hard to look after their slippers and we haven't lost one...yet!

READING

Regular reading practice has a significant impact on reading progress. To develop pace and fluency at home, you could try this approach:

- Choose 4 or 5 'tricky' words from your child's reading book e.g. she, said, was, they.
- Write them on a piece of paper and read them with your child.
- Set a timer on your watch or phone and see how many times your child can read the same 4 or 5 words. Repeat and try to beat the score.
- Play 'Spot the Word' in your child's reading book as you orally rehearse the sentences and prepare them for reading.
- Read a few pages.

This activity is all about **preparing** children to read while helping to strengthen visual and auditory memory. Personally, as a parent, I've found it really useful.

BITS AND PIECES

- ❖ PE takes place every Monday in the school hall. Long hair should be tied back and earrings removed for country dancing.
- ❖ Handwriting books will be collected each Thursday and returned on Friday with new letters.
- ❖ Please send a warm hat, gloves and a spare pair of socks into school every day for outdoor play.
- ❖ Please name every item of clothing, especially jumpers and cardigans.

WHAT WILL WE BE LEARNING?

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- * Identify and work towards goals.
- * Find out about the 'wonderful world of work'
- * Tackle gender stereotypes e.g. all nurses are women and all builders are men.

Communication and Language/Literacy

- * Read and spell CVCC (sand) and CCVC (trip) words.
- * Retell "The Door in the Mountain."
- * Order, compose and write phrases and sentences.
- * Continue to use finger spaces, capital letters and full stops.
- * Check writing for sense.

Mathematics

- * Use and understand ordinal numbers.
- * Share a number of objects.
- * Find double and half of a number of objects.
- * Count in 2s and 10s.

Physical Development

- * Learn a simple country dance.
- * Develop handwriting patterns through Write Dance and continue letter formation: b, h, r, n, m.
- Wake and Shake - Keep on Movin' by Five

Understanding the World

- * Discover human and physical features of a place.
- * Compare where we live to a different country.
- * Find out how to care for a place.
- * Find out how life is different today compared to the past.

Expressive Arts and Design

- * Respond to the work of artists e.g. Andy Goldsworthy.
- * Create 3D art using natural materials.
- * Handle, shape and make marks in clay.
- * Sing with a sense of shape.

If you any questions, please pop into school. We're always happy to help. Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Webb, Miss Holmes, Miss Turner and Mrs Roberts.