

NEWSLETTER

Blackwell First School- Yellow Class



Welcome back. We hope you had a wonderful Easter holidays. It is so hard to believe that we are in the summer term. The year has whizzed by so quickly. There is so much to look forward to including a castle trip, a sporting morning, a Tudor Fayre... not to mention our class assembly! It's going to be busy. Read on to find out more...

Topic

During our 'Castles' topic, the key skills we will focus on are collaboration skills and communicating with our peers. These life skills will support us through school and the world of work and by learning to compromise, listen to others, consider different viewpoints and empathise with others, we will be more successful in our relationships. These skills will also be useful to help us to with our various projects this half term!

History, DT and Science are areas of the curriculum which will be covered during this topic. In our History, we will be developing our understanding of chronology, selecting information carefully and asking historical questions by finding out about Castles throughout British History in addition to some focussed Tudor learning, including the life of King Henry VIII!

In DT, we will be developing our work with textiles. We will be disassembling and testing fabrics in order to design, make and evaluate a special piece of fabric (exactly what is a surprise) that will feature at our Tudor Fayre.

Our Science topic is Forces and Magnets. We will explore forces and test them. We will be investigating magnetic and non-magnetic materials as well as testing the strength of magnets.

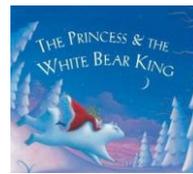
See our 'Curriculum' page on the school website for more information about what we will cover in PSHE, Music (Greensleeves by Henry himself...possibly), Computing, French, P.E and Philosophy this half term.

Our second topic of the half term is 'Health and Fitness' where we will cover areas of PE in preparation for our Sporting Morning!



Literacy

This half term the children will be focusing on narrative writing. Our learning will be based on the story of 'The Princess and the White King' which is set in a variety of settings including castles. The children will produce their own writing based on the story. Activities to support this will include recapping how to write effective sentences; the use of adjectives, verbs and adverbs and using prepositions (under, beneath) in our writing. We are focussing on developing the children's spelling further by providing them with strategies to support them such as using their spelling books, the wall displays and also their spelling prompts on their tables.



We will be focusing on non-fiction writing in our 'Health and Fitness' Topic.

Clothing and Equipment Reminder!

Please ensure that your child has the following in school with them every day (named please):

- school book bag
- reading book and card
- water bottle
- jumper/ cardigan
- hooded, waterproof coat
- P.E kit (jogging bottoms, shorts, trainers, pumps, white t-shirt, hat, hair bobble for long hair and a plastic carrier bag for muddy trainers)
- wellingtons and a pair of thick socks

* Your child has been told their Forest School day.

Times Tables

We have been impressed with the children's knowledge of their times tables. Your efforts at home are paying off! Keep going with the 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, and 11 times tables. Remember to learn the division facts too!

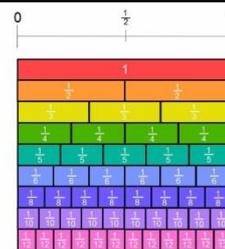
Numeracy over this half term...

Adding and Subtracting: mentally using two and three digit numbers, written methods including column addition and application of these skills in a variety of contexts (problem solving).

Multiplying and Dividing: mentally using our times tables (please keep learning these), written methods and application of these skills in a variety of contexts (problem solving).

Fractions: Counting in fractional steps and crossing the whole, e.g. $1/2$, $2/2$ (1), $3/2$ ($1 \frac{1}{2}$), recognising fractions, comparing fractions, equivalent fractions using fraction walls (see illustration), problem solving with fractions.

We will also focus on measures including standard measures of length (m and cm) and capacity (l and ml).



This fraction wall with help with counting and equivalence.

Hopefully we will get some nice weather (fingers crossed!) over the summer term. Please ensure that children have a water bottle, a sun hat and a coat (for summer showers). If sun cream can be put on before school where possible, then that would be really helpful. Thank you for your help. ☺

Thank you for all of your continued support. Remember if you do want to pop and say hello, we are normally around after school. We look forward to sharing our learning with you at our class assembly and at the Tudor Fayre.
Mrs Dudek and Miss Chamberlain ☺