

NEWSLETTER

Blackwell First School- Yellow Class



A big welcome to Year 3! We hope you all had a good summer holiday and are now looking forward to the start of a new academic year. In just a few weeks time we have the long awaited 'Grand Opening' celebrating the new building at Blackwell First School. That special evening is not just for the children in the new classrooms though... Yellow Class will be showing off their first few weeks of learning on that evening too. We will be very busy getting things ready for you... read on to find out what learning you can expect from our first half term of being 'juniors'! We are looking forward to getting to know you all and having a super year together!

Topic

We kick start the year with a Roman topic. This project will enable the children to plan their own learning and develop their collaboration skills to make work for an organised public event. History, D.T. and Art are areas of the curriculum which will be covered during this topic.

History will focus on chronology skills where the children will consider the order of historical events. They will use evidence to test a hypothesis about Roman life and investigate what Britain was like before and after the Roman invasion, making comparisons between the two. Through D.T. the children will explore pneumatic systems to enable them to design and make 'Roman toys' which will be presented at our Grand Opening. In art the children will develop their drawing skills. The focus will be on mark making, exploring shading and investigating light, medium and dark tone.

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

Our second topic of the half term is 'Nature' where we will cover areas of geography, science and art.

Literacy

This half term the children will be reading and discussing a range of non chronological reports based on the Romans. We will be focusing on the features of non chronological reports (i.e. headings, sub headings, introductions) to support us to write our own reports. We will also be recapping what we need to make a good sentence.

In phonics the children will be taught how to spell a range of sounds such as ei/eigh/ey and other spelling conventions such as using apostrophes (for possession) and plurals.

Numeracy

In Numeracy children will be completing a range of activities to help develop their understanding of 3 and 4 digit numbers and mental and written methods for addition and subtraction. Mental starters will focus on number bonds to 20 and 100, finding 10 more and less than any 3-digit number and counting in 3s and 4s.

Bits and Pieces

The School Wall is an online resource where your child can access games and activities to challenge their learning further. Your child will be reminded how to access this during the first few weeks of this term and how to be safe when online. Stars are up for grabs for the children to earn and collect and to turn into shields!

Your child will bring home reading books to share with you. You will receive a Reading Card which provides lots of information and tips for the reading level your child is on and 'tick sheet' to show when your child has read. These new cards will replace reading diaries. If you have any questions about our new reading cards then please come and see us. We also love to hear what the children are enjoying reading at home. Try to make sure that books from home are a good challenge for your child. We ask that children read at home at least 4 times a week. It really does have a huge impact on children's learning. Remember little and often is the best way!

Please make sure all of your child's clothes, shoes and belongings e.g. water bottle, book bag, hats... are named. This really helps lost items to be reunited with their owner easily and quickly. Thank you!

Clothing and Equipment

Please ensure that your child has the following in school with them every day:

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

If you have any queries please come and speak to us, even if they seem small. Straight after school is usually the best time or even if you just want to say hello, then that would be lovely!

Miss Steele and Mrs Moran ☺