

NEWSLETTER

for Blackwell First School- Nursery



At Blackwell First School we aim to educate the whole child and to ensure children are happy, healthy and fulfil their potential in terms of development of skills for life, social and moral values and academic success.

Welcome to our NEW Forest School Nursery! We are all looking forward to working with you this year. Our half termly newsletters outline key learning and information. Our school website is also regularly updated with class and school messages. Please visit our class page: www.blackwellfirstschool.com.

FOREST SCHOOL

Our very own Forest School is almost complete! We are now visiting every morning and afternoon, introducing a new area every week. The children are coping well with the new "all in one" waterproof suits. Please ensure they all have a pair of named wellies with them in school on the days they attend. You are more than welcome to leave them in the Boot Room. Please could you ensure they are kept under the bench on the left hand side as you walk in, even if your child's coat peg is on the other side. We have lots of exciting activities planned to get us started ~ digging, weaving, shelter building and creating our very own Scarecrows for you to all come and visit soon. Over the coming weeks they will venture from Forest School and into the sand, water and construction areas. These opportunities develop key pre writing skills to develop children's gross and fine motor skills. As they play outdoors, they are working together and communicating, all skills that will support their transition to school and future education.

WARM CLOTHES

Please could you ensure that you dress your child in clothes suitable for the cooler weather as the Autumn appears to be coming in quickly this year! Even in the "cabin" it can be a little chilly as we will sometimes have the door open for children to access the balcony area too. Please could you also start to put a warm hat and gloves in their bags to be hung in the boot room.

SNACK

We have a fruit snack every morning and afternoon with a choice of two or three fruits. Don't forget those 20ps for each session they attend.

QUIET TIME

Our Quiet Time runs from 12.30pm until 1.30pm. Please avoid these times for collection if you plan on collecting early. After a busy morning outside and a hot lunch, the children are ready for it. The children all have their own mat and blanket. All children will lie down from 12.30pm-1.00pm and listen to a story CD or calming music. Some will drop off to sleep, whereas others will just spend the time listening and relaxing. We have noted a distinct difference already in the afternoon with regard to the good quality of speaking and listening and engagement when children have had this "time out". With so much physical effort and engagement involved in the outdoor experiences, it is helpful to them. Please do speak to Mrs Moss if you need any more information.

TOPIC

This half term our topic is Autumn. We have been "collecting" in our new Forest school and so if you find any interesting Autumn objects on your weekend walks, please do encourage the children to bring them in and place them on our outside table.

CIRCLE TIME

Every day the children take part in circle time, which are short ten minute group times.

These are the areas that we focus on in Nursery:

Speaking and Listening

Good listening is:

- *Looking at the person who is talking
- *Listening to ALL the words
- *Staying quiet
- *Sitting still



Using games and tales, we demonstrate and teach good active listening skills, vital for children's ongoing development. All staff in school apply the same rules and have recently received excellent training from the Worcestershire Speech and Language service to support the development high quality speaking and listening.

Mathematics

- *Use number names in counting rhymes, songs and stories.
- * Develop basic counting skills and developing an understanding of the numbers. What does 5 look like? Have you got more than I have?
- * Sorting objects in our environment by colour, shape and size.

Write Dance and Dough Dance

- *Develop fine motor control through music, movement and mark making sessions which will support writing skills later on

Communication and Language

- *Listening to and retelling stories to develop good language skills and vocabulary

HAPPY TO HELP

We are always happy to chat to you either when you drop off or collect with any queries you have about your little one. We hold a parent/teacher meeting in the autumn so that you can share information about your child and find out about their first few weeks at Nursery and later in the autumn term, we share your child's progress through their termly report and parents evening.

Best wishes Mrs Mander, Mrs Allen and Mrs Franklin.