

# NEWSLETTER

## Blackwell First School- Yellow Class



Firstly we would like to wish you all a very happy new year and we hope you all had a great festive break! We are so proud of how independent and mature Yellow class children are becoming, we're sure you will agree this was demonstrated during 'The Snowman' production. Our topics this term are 'Traditional Tales' and 'Hinduism'. The term includes a special theatre trip as well as some exciting projects such as a 'Yellow Class Tales Book' and 'Hinduism Festival'. Read on for more details!

### Topic

We will be covering the curriculum areas of Art, Science and RE across this half term. To prepare for our special projects throughout the term, the children will have opportunities to develop their collaboration and evaluation skills. The children will take part in various different activities over the topics to embed these skills.

In Science, we will be investigating the materials around us. We will be looking at irreversible changes, sorting materials, comparing different types of rocks, explaining how fossils are formed and explaining how soil is formed.

Through Art, the children will focus on their drawing skills. This will include investigating graphic marks, developing understanding of tone and exploring pattern- line, colour, shape, enlarging and layering. This will help us to design a new 'animal-friendly' cloak for Cruella de Vil!

In RE, we will be focusing on the religion of Hinduism. We will consider where Hinduism was founded, main beliefs, special places, special festivals, symbols and meanings and what it is like to be a Hindu in Britain today. We will also be comparing Hinduism to the religions we have already focused on this year.

Whilst exploring Hinduism, our Art will focus on dyeing and printing techniques within textiles.

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.

Practising the 2, 5, 10, 3, 4 and 8 times tables at home will be very helpful! Thank you

### Numeracy over this half term...

**Problem solving:** Number Puzzles

**Number:** Multiply and divide by 10 and 100, represent numbers including decimals, partition numbers including decimals

**Adding:** mentally, written methods, application of these skills in a variety of contexts

**Subtracting:** mentally, written methods, application of these skills in a variety of contexts

**Measuring:** comparing and estimating length, measuring and calculating length including perimeter, converting length

**Multiplying:** mentally, written methods, application of these skills in a variety of contexts

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Ask if you would like more information on the strategies used.

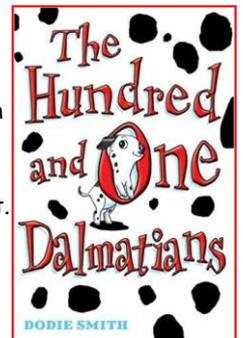
### Reading

Thank you for all the reading you do at home. Although your child is now more fluent, please still read with them to support their comprehension development. Thank you.

### Literacy

After experiencing the theatre production of '101 Dalmatians', we will be using the text to look at the author's word choice. We will use this knowledge to then create our own noun phrases for writing. We will look carefully at how we can include conjunctions and fronted adverbials in our writing by seeing how authors of our favourite tales use these features. We will also focus on the structure of traditional tales so that we can structure our own writing independently. Again, we will focus on proof reading and editing our own writing this term as well as performing our writing to others as part of our 'floor book' project.

Our Literacy focus for 'Hinduism' will mainly focus on 'non-fiction' text features.



### Gymnastics Festival

Yellow Class are very lucky to be taking part in a special event at South Bromsgrove High School this term where they will have the opportunity to work with children from other schools, have support from specialist staff and use more extensive equipment.

As ever, please ensure that your child always has the correct PE kit in school for indoor and outdoor activities during 'school' and 'club' time. If you can double check that all items are named then that would be a real help.

### Slippers

Your child might have told you that they tried on slippers at the end of last term! There is increasing research to suggest that slippers in school have many benefits. This is extra responsibility (and excitement!) for the children and therefore their slippers are being given to them when we can trust them to be independent and sensible. We will 'swap' slippers as feet inevitably grow!

If you wish to speak to us about anything, pop along and see us for a chat. After school is usually a good time! Thank you for all your continued support.

Miss Steele and Miss Chamberlain ☺