

NEWSLETTER

for Blackwell First School- Yellow Class



Welcome back

We hope that you all had a relaxing break with lots of rest, although we know that some half term adventures ended quite dramatically! We are now half way through the year and I look forward to the rest of the year with you all. Our new topic is 'Adventures' and we look forward to learning about Shackleton's journey across Antarctica.

TOPIC

We are going to start this half term topic called 'Adventures'.

Geography and Art are the areas of the Foundation Subject curriculum taught during this topic.



In Geography, the children will develop observational skills by looking at maps. They will also develop their geographical skill of comparison by comparing the continents of Antarctica and North America. This will be intertwined in lessons as the children research Shackleton's expedition across Antarctica. They will then be answering our geographical question; 'Which continent would give the greatest adventure, Antarctica or North America?'

Art will focus on painting. They will be able to develop and build on their skills of colour mixing and create some sgraffito (mark making into paint). Their project will focus on the skills they have developed through the lesson by creating a piece of icy art and we look forward to welcoming you to our Art Exhibition later in the term.

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.

LITERACY

As a class, we will read 'Shackleton's Journey' by William Grill. The children will first develop their understanding through questioning, word identification and summarising before creating a chronological report based on information learned from the book and in geography. We will be focussing on literary features such as adjectives, conjunctions and paragraphs. Handwriting sessions will focus on specific letter formation (where we have spotted inaccurate formation) and some number formation too.

In spelling, the children will be taught a range of spelling conventions including adding prefixes super- and auto-, homophones, the /k/ sound spelt 'ch' and suffixes such as '-ed' and '-ing' We will also practise reading and spelling the following tricky words:

natural, naughty, notice, occasion, occasionally, often, opposite, ordinary, particular, peculiar, perhaps, popular, position, possess, possession, possible, potatoes, pressure, probably, promise, purpose, quarter, question.

The game 'Little Bird Spelling' on www.ictgames.com is very useful and the children enjoy playing this.



BITS AND PIECES

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

- school book bag
- home reading card
- water bottle and snack/tuck money
- hooded, waterproof coat
- P.E kit (to include jogging bottoms, shorts, **trainers and pumps**, white t-shirt, jumper, hair bobble for children with shoulder length hair or longer and a plastic carrier bag for muddy trainers)
- wellingtons and a pair of thick socks

Please name all of these items to help misplaced items be returned to the correct owner.

Forest School for children in Yellow Class will take place on alternate weeks this half term. This is so that every child can access all clubs we have on offer. Please see the group list sent on Parent App for your child's group. Children can come to school wearing jogging bottoms on the day they go on either week.

Please read with your child daily to help build fluency, develop word meaning and check their inference skills.

NUMERACY

During Numeracy, children will be completing a range of activities to help develop their understanding and use of division. The children will develop their mental and written skills, as well as their problem solving.

They will also be introduced to telling the time on an analogue and digital clock (12 and 24-hour).

Mental starters will focus on counting in multiples of 11s, and the 11 x table, doubles and halves of all numbers to 100 and multiplying by 4 and 8. **Daily times table practice at home significantly helps too!**

Squeebles and hit the button are great apps



We are looking forward to the exciting learning we will be doing this half term in Yellow Class and to welcoming you onto site for the Art Exhibition.

Please email the office if you have any questions or catch me at the end of the day on the playground. Thank you.

Miss Davis and Mrs Morgan