

NEWSLETTER

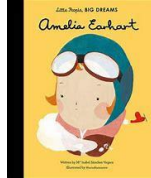
for Blackwell First School- Purple Class



Welcome back to everyone! I hope that you all had a relaxing break with lots of rest. Can you believe that we are now half way through the year? The children have learned so much and I look forward to the rest of the year with them with lots more to learn before they move on to Year 3. Our new topic is 'Adventures' and we're going to be learning about different explorers from different countries and times.

TOPIC

Our focus in Purple Class will be global Geography and how the world has oceans and continents. We will be investigating different explorers and where they travelled. This will allow us to look at different environments and how their place in the world will effect human and physical features, alongside what the climate is like in these places.



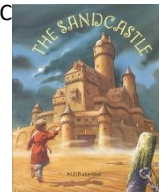
Art is the other area of the curriculum taught during this topic. In Art, the focus is printmaking and the children will be responding to the artwork of different artists and creating a final piece for our art gallery. An artist we will explore is Henri Matisse during our work on collage. The children will share their artwork with you during an art exhibition towards the end of this half term.

On the first day, we opened our class gift, our new literacy text. We used it to explore the adventure of travelling from Europe to New York during the past and helping to answer a dilemma about whether people should travel from the place of their birth.

PSHE, Music, Computing, 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 'When Jessie Crossed the Sea' by Amy Hest which will allow us to write a diary about what happened during the journey. We will also be reading 'The Sandcastle' by M.P. Robertson. This text will support us in writing a short story.



We are going to focus on sentence demarcation and making sure our writing makes sense. This will allow the children to write sentences correctly whilst independently using writing skills we have already visited such as conjunctions and adjectives. Handwriting will still be an integral part of the children's learning as they become more fluent with their cursive writing.

In spelling, the children will continue to revisit and review phase 5 phonics from Little Wandle and will be exposed to more homophones as part of the spelling curriculum.

Different learning strategies will also be introduced to give the children ideas of how to practise spellings in a variety of ways.

We will also continue to practise reading and spelling the following tricky words:

after, fast, past, last, father, class, grass, pass, plant, bath, hour, move, prove, improve, sure, sugar, eye, could, should, would, who, whole, any, many, clothes, busy, people, water, again, half, money, Mr, Mrs, parents, Christmas, everybody, even

BITS AND PIECES

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

- school book bag
- home reading card and reading book
- water bottle and snack/tuck money
- hooded, waterproof coat
- P.E kit (to include jogging bottoms, shorts, **trainers and pumps**, white t-shirt, jumper 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.

It would be helpful for children with longer hair to have spare hair bobbles in school for activities such as PE and art.

Forest School will be **Monday** for group 1, **Tuesday** for group 2 and **Wednesday** for group 3. Forest school is now **once every fortnight**. They can come to school wearing jogging bottoms on the day they go to save you from remembering which week it is!

Please read with your child daily to help build fluency and develop word meaning.

NUMERACY

During Numeracy, children will be completing a range of activities to help develop their ability to tell the time accurately. We will start by learning o'clock, half past, quarter past and quarter to, before moving on to 5-minute intervals. We will then learn many different ways to divide by using resources and written methods.

We will also continue problem solving each day and include a once a week extended session to develop children's logical thinking.

Mental starters will focus on

- five times tables
- doubles and halves,
- number bonds to 100
- finding small differences
- partitioning number in different ways
- counting forwards/backwards in 2s, 5s and 10s.



Daily times table practice at home significantly helps too!

The children have made such a good start this week already and are definitely developing independence. Keep it up Purple Class.

Please email the office if you have any questions and I am always happy to speak with you. Thank you.

Miss Phipps