

# NEWSLETTER

## for Blackwell First School- Purple Class



**Welcome back to everyone!** I hope that you were all able to celebrate and enjoy the holiday. Mrs Marks, Mrs Moran, Miss Kuriger, Miss Patwa and I will be working really hard this half term to develop children's independence to allow them to explore different resources to support their learning. We are also continuing to understand Code of conduct and develop reflectiveness to help the children to become more self aware of their learning style and how to develop as learners.

### TOPIC

We start this half term with a topic called 'Circus'. Our project is 'BIG BLACKWELL WRITING COMPETITION' set by Mrs Moss.

The focus in Science will be every day materials and how these could be used in the circus. The children will be able to experiment, using different materials, and explain what they have found.

They will be exploring the properties of materials to discover which is best for the criteria given.

Art is the other area of the curriculum taught during this topic. In Art, the focus is collage where the children will be responding to the artwork of different artists on both a large scale and a small scale.

On the first day, we used our new 'surprise' literacy text to explore the circus and help to solve a dilemma.

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 'Circus Girl' by Clare Perrine. This book is filled with great vocabulary which will assist the children in developing and becoming more adventurous with their use of language. The children will continue to have many writing opportunities to continue to build their writing stamina. We are going to focus on word meaning, sentence structure, verb tenses and adjectives. Handwriting will still be an integral part of the children's learning as they become more fluent with their cursive writing. The children will enter Mrs Moss's writing competition with their work. In spelling, the children will continue to revisit and review phase 5 and will be exposed to more homophones. 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:

**door, floor, poor, because, find, kind, mind, behind, child, children, wild, climb, most, only, both, old, cold, gold, hold, told, every, everybody, even, great, break, steak, pretty and beautiful.**

The game 'Little Bird Spelling' on [www.ictgames.com](http://www.ictgames.com) is very useful.



### 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 **Tuesday** for all of purple class. They can come to school wearing jogging bottoms on the day they go. We have returned to class bubbles for the short term in order to support the reduction of COVID transmission.

**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 understanding of geometry. We will be focussing on co-ordinates and properties of shapes. We will also learn many different ways to multiply and divide by using resources and written methods.

We will problem solve in each lessons but also sepcifically once a week to develop children's logical thinking.

Mental starters will focus on:

- two times tables
- doubles and halves,
- number bonds to 20
- finding small differences and
- counting forwards/backwards in 2s, 5s and 10s.



**Daily times table practice at home significantly helps too!**

The children made such good progress last term and we are excited to see how much further they can grow this term.

Please email the office if you have any questions. Thank you.

*Miss Phipps, Mrs Marks, Mrs Moran, Miss Kuriger and Miss Patwa*