

# NEWSLETTER

## for Blackwell First School- Yellow Class



### Welcome back

I hope that you all had a relaxing break with lots of rest. We are now half way through the year and I look forward to the rest of the year with Yellow Class. Our new topic is Ancient Greece and we can't wait to learn about different events that shaped history and famous Greeks.

### TOPIC

The start of the half term will focus on the topic of "Ancient Greece".

The children have had the opportunity to become investigators by examining Ancient Greece artefacts.

History and Geography are the areas of the curriculum taught during this topic.



In History, the children are looking at how to be a good historian. This involves:

**Examining** sources and artefacts;

**Questioning** the source;

**Speculating** what the artefacts could be and giving reasons and

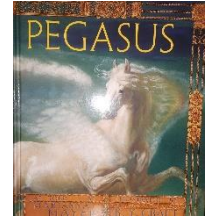
**Hypothesising** what their best idea is.

In Geography, children will be focussing on the location of Greece, what it is used for mostly, including as a holiday destination, and how this can be compared to other countries. We will also explore the environmental impact that Greece has and how they might be able to make this better.

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

Literacy this half term will focus on the mythical story of 'Pegasus' which will help us to understand the different themes that arise in these types of texts.



The children will have the chance to create their own 'myths and legends' story based on the storyline of the class text. They will need to be able to use good word choices, time adverbials, prepositions and dialogue to help the reader's understanding.

The children will have regular handwriting sessions to help continually develop their cursive handwriting to assist them in becoming fluent writers. We will be focusing particularly on 'dotting i's and crossing t's' after we have finished writing the word.

In phonics the children will be taught strategies for practising spellings at home and we will recap what resources are available in the classroom. They will be learning how to add the prefixes super- and auto- and what these words mean. We will also be revisiting homophones such as there, their and they're. We will be learning the following tricky words:

**natural, naughty, notice, occasional, occasionally, often, opposite, ordinary, particular, peculiar, perhaps, popular, position possess, possession, possible.**

The children really enjoy the game 'Little Bird Spelling' on [www.ictgames.com](http://www.ictgames.com)

### BITS AND PIECES

Forest School for children in Yellow Class will take place on Wednesday (group 6) and Friday (Group 7 and 8) this term. This is the same as last half term.

Please make sure your child has a named water bottle and healthy snack in school each day.

May I ask again that you support your child's reading at home. Daily reading significantly helps reading fluency, comprehension and word meaning and impacts on the whole curriculum. Reading opens doors to all learning.

It would be helpful if children with long hair could have their hair tied up for school each day. Many thanks.

Thank you all for your ongoing support this academic year.

Please pop in for a chat at the end of the school day if you have any questions or if you just want to say hello. Thank you. *Miss Phipps*

### NUMERACY

During Numeracy children will be completing a range of activities to help develop their understanding of fractions and what a fraction is. The children will develop their skill of making fractions, writing fractions, finding fractions of amounts and adding and subtracting fractions.

They will also be introduced to a new written method for addition and subtraction to help them develop fluency.

Mental starters will focus on counting in tenths, finding a quarter of a given number, number bonds to 1000 and place value number bonds ( $10 + 90 = 1000$ , so  $100 + 900 = 1000$ ). We will also revisit the 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10 times table to ensure the children know them by heart and out of order. **Daily times table practice at home significantly helps too! Next year the children will take a national test and for this they need to know all of their tables by heart in order to answer questions in less than 6 seconds...**

