

# NEWSLETTER

## for Blackwell First School- Blue Class



**Hello my treasures and Blue Class families.** I hope you are all keeping safe and well and have enjoyed the wonderful sunshine over the Easter period. It is the start of a new term and even though things are a bit different at the moment, I have still planned lots of new and exciting learning for you. Your learning will begin at home but hopefully we'll be back at school soon to share in more of our learning together. Following conversations with your grownups and photographs you've sent in, I was very impressed with the learning you completed at home before the Easter break. This type of learning will certainly be developing your independence and resilience which will equip you with great skills for life. Keep it up over the next few weeks, keep working hard and I look forward to our weekly telephone chats. Our last chats were certainly entertaining... one person was roller skating and talking to me at the same time, someone had to put me on hold whilst they needed to score a goal and I was treated to lots of descriptions of culinary delights! Thank you and well done everyone.

**Let's see what I have in store for us over the next few weeks...**



### TOPIC

'Picture Perfect' is our new topic with Art, D.T. and Science the main foundation subjects taught. Mrs Moss has set us a challenge for our project. The challenge is for us to create a class piece of art based on our story we will share together during Literacy – **The Kingdom Under the Sea**. More information will be sent explaining how this work will be collated. I have a feeling it might test my computing skills though but fingers crossed we will complete this challenge successfully!



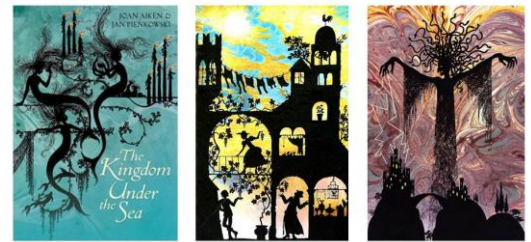
Through Art, the children will observe a range of Eastern European drawings of mythical creatures. Home learning and resources will dictate the media used but the children will have opportunities to be creative and develop their art skills including mark making and creating different tones.

D.T. will involve designing and making a boat that sails for the main characters from our story of focus. They'll be using natural objects and unwanted household items and washing up bowls or paddling pools will need to be at the ready to test how successful their boats are. Will they sink or swim?

In Science and where resources allow, the children will be developing their investigative skills such as generating ideas, predicting, observing, recording and drawing conclusions. They may be able to plan and carry out experiments with a focus on states of matter – solids, liquids and gases and investigate changing state and develop their understanding of the water cycle.

PSHE, Music, Computing, French, P.E and Philosophy for Children will be taught each week where possible too.

### LITERACY



During this topic, we will be reading an Eastern European mythical story by Joan Aiken, *The Kingdom Under the Sea*. We will explore the plot and language in the story, make predictions and summarise what we read.

Alongside developing our use of rich vocabulary, we will consolidate a range of sentence writing skills such as subordinating conjunctions, fronted adverbials and correctly punctuated dialogue.

These skills will be applied when we enjoy writing character and setting descriptions as well as writing our own version of the story. I will look forward to reading these when we are back together or you might like to read part of them to me when we chat on the phone.

In spellings, we will explore words ending in -cian, -sion, -ssion and -tion, more homophones i.e. break/brake, sore/saw, poor/pour and continue to learn how to use apostrophes for possession for both singular and plural nouns including irregular plurals such as men and children.

### NUMERACY

During Numeracy, we will be moving on to formal written methods for multiplication followed by mental and written methods for division.

Mental maths will be focusing on the 9 and 11 times tables and corresponding division facts, recapping skills such as factor pairs, multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100 and using a range of efficient mental methods to multiply (as taught during the last few weeks).

#### SOME FACTS TO LEARN AT HOME:

$$0.25 = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$0.5 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$0.75 = \frac{3}{4}$$

### BIT AND PIECES

We are aware the children may be very disappointed at the thought of potentially missing out on those special Year 4 events. We don't know how things will unfold in the upcoming weeks but if Malvern and bell-boating were unable to go ahead on the planned dates, we have already provisionally booked 3 days for Malvern in the summer holiday and a weekend during the autumn term if things are still not fully open during the summer. Similarly, we will arrange to go bell boating during the summer holiday too. More information to come via ParentApp.



Finally, thank you for all of the support you are giving your child at home during these challenging times. Please don't worry if you are unable to complete all of the learning each day. Focusing on spelling, reading, Literacy and Numeracy as often as you can will ensure the children are still making academic progress whilst not in school. Keep smiling everyone and I'm looking forward to being back together again. ☺