

NEWSLETTER

For Blackwell First School – Purple Class



Welcome back! We hope you have had a lovely break. We had lots of fun last half term planning and making a short film for our 'Blackwell Film Festival' and also creating our own mood boards during our 'Something Special' topic. We have a busy half term planned with our new topic, 'Pirates'. Here, we have lots of exciting learning opportunities planned, including performing a pirate themed dance at a local dance festival in March.

TOPIC

DT and History are the main foundation subjects which will be covered during our new topic 'Pirates'



Our focus in DT will be food and nutrition. During this unit, the children will plan, make and evaluate their own 'Pirate Broth'. The children will learn and apply a variety of new cooking skills.

In History, we will use research from primary and secondary sources to answer the following question:

How much do we know about the real life Pirates of the Caribbean?

During the final week of this half term, we will enjoy a short 'Easter' topic where we will use our RE lessons to learn more about the Easter Story.

Music, Computing, PE and Philosophy are taught throughout the year. The school website has information about these subjects in the 'Curriculum area'.

BITS AND PIECES

Dates for your diary:

Tues 12th/Weds 13th March – Parents Consultation Meetings

Monday 18th March – Easter Story Night

Tuesday 19th March at 8:50am – 'Singing on the Steps'

Thursday 21st March – Purple Class Bake Sale

Each week, your child will bring home a reading book matched to their current reading band and also a 'library book' which will be a free choice book. The library book will support children in being exposed to a wider range of texts and will be tricky for independent reading. Please enjoy this book together. Matched Little Wandle reading books will normally be changed on a Monday, other reading books can be changed as and when they have been read at home. Children who are no longer reading Little Wandle books are able to change these on any day of the week. Each Friday, we will send children who are reading Little Wandle books, an eBook and the reading book read in school which the children will be familiar with. Reading this book will help develop children's fluency.

Forest School Days remain the same:

Group 1 – Mon / Group 2 – Tues / Group 3 - Weds

Please send your child in wearing plain, dark jogging bottoms/leggings on these days.

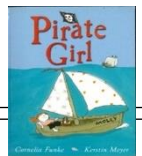
Please also make sure they have **named** gloves, hat, scarves.

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

ENGLISH

To begin with this term, we will read 'Pirate Girl' by Cornelia Funke. Molly is captured by a terrible pirate crew and writes letters to her mother in hope of rescue – popped into bottles and tossed into the deep, wide sea of course. We will use our learning to make our own fact file based on pirates that we have learned about in history. We will then use this work to create our own board game for our project.

Phonics/ Spelling, handwriting and discrete reading sessions will continue daily.



MATHS

In mental maths we will continue to work on our fluency when counting on and back in 2s, 3s, 5s, and 10s as well as doubles and halves to 20 + 20, instant recall of number bonds to 20 and addition and subtraction facts from 5 – 12. **We have now started to learn the 2 and 10 times tables.** Please continue to practise these at home to develop the children's rapid recall.

In maths, we have recently moved onto 'Geometry'. Here, we have learned about turns, direction, position and patterns and we will now move onto 'Shape' where we will learn how to identify, compare and classify a variety of shapes.

CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

A checklist for each day in school:

- school book bag
- reading/library book and card
- water bottle, 50p for tuck or a healthy snack (no nuts)
- hooded, waterproof coat
- P.E. kit (to include jogging bottoms, shorts, trainers and pumps, white t-shirt, hair bobble for shoulder length hair or longer and a plastic carrier bag for muddy trainers)
- wellies and a pair of thick socks



Please label all belongings with your child's name.

If there is anything you wish to ask about, please come and speak to me at the end of the day or send an email to office@blackwell.worcs.sch.uk

Many thanks

Miss Bailey, Mrs Hampton and Mrs Cooper