

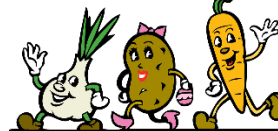


# NEWSLETTER

for Blackwell First School- Red Class



Fruit and vegetable printing for our display.



**Happy New Year!** Welcome to the spring term in Red Class. This term, we will be '**Building a Business**' by designing and making sandwiches for our Red Class Afternoon Tea as we raise money for the Basement Project in Bromsgrove. We will finish the half term with our topic, 'Religion'.

## BITS AND PIECES

- ❖ PE takes place every Monday. Please tie back long hair for **gymnastics**.
- ❖ Forest School takes place every Friday.
- ❖ Real books are sent home on Mondays and eBooks every Friday.
- ❖ Water bottles are filled and emptied at school.
- ❖ Library books are issued on the following days:  
**Monday:** Lions      **Tuesday:** Tigers  
**Wednesday:** Parrots **Thursday:** Zebras  
**Friday:** Giraffes

## HANDWRITING

This term, we will learn how to write each letter using the cursive script. We begin by learning the curly caterpillar letters (c, o, a, d, g, q) where we use a 'round and back' action. We will introduce one letter each day. Here are some top tips for writing at home:

1. Write little and often (10 minutes each day).
2. Check your child's tripod grip and use chunky writing tools if needed.
3. Work 'big' on the floor, easel or at the table.
4. Use a range of sensory activities and media e.g. sand tray, shaving foam, felt tip pens.
5. Use this link to our You Tube channel to find letter formation videos:  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC\\_466TobEUoRugFnKKWbXSQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_466TobEUoRugFnKKWbXSQ)
6. Say the formation phrase together to support correct letter formation (see attached).
7. Follow handwriting with an activity of your child's choice e.g. "Handwriting now, outside play next."
8. Offer lots of positive praise. Together we will get there!

## BUILDING A BUSINESS

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- \*Name and describe emotions.
- \*Know ways to keep a healthy mind and body e.g. exercise.
- \*Know who to talk to if we feel upset or worried.

### Communication and Language/Literacy

- \*Identify vowel digraphs e.g. ai (**rain**) and ee (**sheep**) and begin to read and spell words using vowel digraphs.
- \*Share 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch' and identify and understand vocabulary from the story.
- \*Begin to write phrases and write for the project e.g. table name cards, simple invitations, posters.

### Mathematics

- \*Read, make and understand teen numbers.
- \*Count in 2s.
- \*Use the part-whole model for addition and subtraction.
- \*Name and describe 3D shapes.

### Physical Development

- \*Travel, roll, jump and balance.
- \*Create a simple sequence of movements.
- \*Wake and Shake- 'La Bamba'.

### Topic

#### Science

- \* Name, describe and sort materials.
- \*Find similarities and differences between materials and identify some changes.
- \*Make simple predictions and test materials.

#### Art

- \*Name and describe textiles.
- \*Shape, join and dye textiles.
- \*Create table mats and runners.

#### DT

- \*Design, make and evaluate sandwiches for our afternoon tea.
- \*Use equipment safely and develop skills such as slicing, grating, spreading and mixing.

Daily messages can be given to Mrs Moss in the morning or please email the office - [office@blackwell.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:office@blackwell.worcs.sch.uk)  
Our Red Class blog can be accessed every Friday through ParentApp and the school website. We're always happy to help.  
**Best wishes, Mrs Webb, Mrs Birley and Mrs Spurgeon. (Mrs Thomas is currently on placement at Charford First School but will return later in the term).**