

# NEWSLETTER

## for Blackwell First School- Green Class



Welcome back to the final half term in Green Class. We hope you had a good rest over the half term break or enjoyed your travels if you went away. The year has flown by, and I can't believe I am writing the final instalment of Green Class news for the year. The children really did end the last half term in a super way. We were so proud of the skills they have shown inside and outside of the classroom including sportsmanship, perseverance, and friendship. This half term is a busy one as we prepare children for their transition into Year 2 and take part in many wonderful events including our rescheduled sport's day and a whole school trip. We have two topics this half term that are 'Victorians' and 'Food and farming'.

### English

We start each topic as always with the arrival of our book from Mrs. Moss. For the 'Victorians' topic, we have the beautiful tales from Beatrix Potter starting with Peter Rabbit. We will be using the ideas in the tale to write our own stories. Our focus for our story writing will be writing at length using capital letters, full stops and adjectives to make our writing more interesting. We will also practise tricky word spelling daily. (These words are listed on the homework sheet) During our 'food and farming' topic we will be writing some non-fiction information about the important work farmers do to get food from field to fork.

**Phonics-** this half term we will secure alternative pronunciations for known graphemes e.g., we know c can make a c sound like in the word cat but also can make a s sound like in the word circus. A similar thing happens with g and j e.g., in the word giant g is making a j sound. Children will take part in a National Phonics Check next week and results will be shared with you in their end of year reports.

**Handwriting-** this half term we will continue to work on careful letter joins and making sure letters all start and end from the line and are the right size when compared to each other i.e. tall letters such as l,b,d,k,h are all taller than other letters.



### Topic

During our Victorians topic we have the focus subjects of history and art. In history, we will explore the big question of **What was life like for children during the Victorian times?**

We will learn about the lives of children with a particular focus on schools. Mrs James may have to get out the cane and dunce hats and have the children writing many lines. Our learning will be a great preparation for our history trip. Our art focus is 3D forms and we will be using clay to create our own bowls with natural material impressions. We will focus on artists such as Richard Long and Andy Goldsworthy.

PE will continue weekly with a focus on outdoor games as children will learn to control equipment such as balls and hoops to play simple games with rules such as piggy in the middle and scoring games.

Computing learning this half term will focus on using technology to create different things such as word documents/paintings. PSHE will focus on changes and moving on as we prepare the children for their smooth transition to Purple Class.

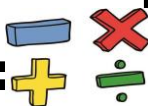


Pupils at our school!

### Homework

Thank you for all the super effort you are putting in to helping children with their homework. Please just remind your child to hand in their books if they have completed any work at home so we can celebrate and share their successes.

Homework remains **optional** and activities are designed to help you to see the type of learning taking place within the classroom. Reading remains the best homework you can do with children, multiple times a week as it has a **significant** impact on their progress. Our Little Wandle books are phonetically well matched to your child's ability and will be a book they have read 3 times in school already making it an enjoyable fluent read for you (hopefully!) They are all uploaded to the colins website should you wish to re-read any of the books.



### Maths

Mental maths continues daily using facts listed on the homework sheet such as doubles, halves, number bonds and the place value of numbers up to 100. We take part in weekly 3-minute dashes which are mental maths timed quizzes which aid in the children's maths fluency. These dashes will take place **daily** in Year 2 which is a whole school approach.

Our lessons will focus on counting, ordering and comparing numbers up to 100 and then we will move onto developing our skills of addition and subtraction including using bar modelling. Bar modelling is a whole school approach which provides children with a visual representation of the maths they are doing.

We will also be learning about positions and directions including using words such as left/right and making different turns such as whole turns and half terms (This will link to our fractions learning) We will end the year by learning about mass; measuring and calculating with it.

### Healthy lifestyles

**Snacks-** Please send children to school with a healthy, nut-free, morning snack such as fruit or with money to purchase something from our tuck shop. (50p) Also send children into school with a named, empty, washed water bottle each day.

**Forest School-** We still require children to have arms and legs covered even in hot weather. Long sleeved cotton tops can be kept in PE bags for hot days to avoid the need for jumpers/waterproofs or worn to school if preferred. The group days for Forest School have not changed but a few children have moved groups- please see the ParentApp message sent out by Mrs Kuriger

**PE and sports club-** Children take part in sports lessons multiple times a week, please make sure long hair is tied up **and tape is provided for children with pierced ears** who cannot remove earrings themselves. Removing them is best practice. (Wednesday is our main PE day) Children will need shorts, t shirts and trainers in their PE bags for outdoor PE.

**Sun safe-** we hope the glorious sunshine will make an appearance, if it does, please send children to school with a named hat and sun cream applied on sunny days.



If you wish to speak to us about anything, please telephone or email the office [office@blackwell.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:office@blackwell.worcs.sch.uk) and I will telephone you back, or informal chats can happen at the end of the school day on the playground.

Thank you for your continued support,  
Mrs James