

NEWSLETTER

Blackwell First School – Purple Class



Welcome back... We hope that you have had an enjoyable and restful break and are ready for the final half term and the run up to Christmas!

The children have made a fantastic start to their time in Purple Class and it was lovely to meet with lots of you for our parent consultations. This half term, the children's learning will progress further and we have many exciting events planned. Mrs Marks, Mrs Miles, Mrs Hampton and I will continue to support the children to develop confidence and their independent learning skills across all subjects.

TOPIC

Our first topic of this half term is 'Stories'. Art and Science are the foundation subjects for this topic. In Art, our focus is painting. Here, the children will learn to apply white to tint colours in the style of Anthony Frost.

In Science, the children will be learning about animals including humans.

We have an exciting event planned where we are dressing up as a book character on **Friday 5th December**. During this event we will film some of our learning to share with you. More details to follow.

During the second half of this half term, we will enjoy our 'Christmas' topic. Here, RE will be our foundation subject. Music, Computing, P.E. 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:

- Christmas Story Night – **Thursday 4th December**
- Theatre Trip – **Thursday 18th December** (late return)
- Our Nativity is on **Tuesday 16th December at 9:00am**. More information to follow.



Matched reading books will normally be changed on a Monday.

Little Wandle books need to be returned every Thursday please so that we can send their new Little Wandle book home every Friday. **Please return these as other groups need them.**

Library books can be changed as and when they are finished. We let the children take a new library book home when they have returned their previous library book.

Forest School Days remain the same as last half term

- Group 1** – Tuesday
- Group 2** – Wednesday
- Group 3** – Monday



PE

PE remains as every **Monday** this term. Please make sure your child has trainers as part of their PE kits and children who wear tights need a pair of socks in their PE kits. (Earrings should be removed for PE)

HOMEWORK

Weekly homework remains optional for KS1.

ENGLISH

We are going to be exploring our literacy learning using the story 'Katie Morag Delivers the Mail' by Mairi Hedderick. The children will work towards writing a letter to Katie Morag explaining what it is like to live in Blackwell.



Spelling, handwriting and discrete reading sessions will continue.

MATHS

In mental maths we will continue to work on our fluency when counting in 2s, 5s, and 10s as well as doubles and halves to 20 + 20 and instant recall of number bonds to 20. We will also begin to learn the 2 times table. Please see the mental maths sheet that I shared with you during Parent Meetings.

This half term we will continue to develop our understanding of a variety of written and mental strategies for addition.

Spending time securing children's understanding of smaller numbers is crucial for the development of calculation skills later on in the year.

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
- PE kit (to include jogging bottoms, shorts, trainers and pumps, white t-shirt, hair bobble for shoulder length hair or longer and a plastic bag for muddy trainers)
- wellies and a pair of thick socks

Please label ALL belongings with your child's name.

I have enjoyed teaching the children during the last half term, their enthusiasm to learn is wonderful.

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 in advance for your support,

Miss Bailey, Mrs Marks,
Mrs Miles and Mrs Hampton