

NEWSLETTER

for Blackwell First School- Green Class



Welcome back to the second half of the autumn term. The children have made a great start to Year 1 and you can read all about their adventures in our floor book, '**September in Green Class**'. Please tick when you've seen the floor book and leave the children a comment to celebrate their hard work. We start this half term with our topic, '**Tell Me a Story**' and finish the half term with '**Christmas**'. It will be a busy half term as we prepare for festive celebrations. So, let's find out what's happening in Green Class this half term.



English We will share and retell the story of 'Tim All Alone' by Edward Ardizzone. We will show our understanding of the text by asking and answering questions and making inferences. Later, in our sequence of work, we will write sentences, introducing 'and' to join clauses and using question and exclamation marks.

Please see our homework sheet for the weekly focus for Phonics. We will be learning new digraphs including '**ir**' (bird, girl), '**ie**' (tie, cried) and '**ue**' (blue, argue).

Daily handwriting lessons: The children will continue to focus on cursive letter formation before moving on to capital letter formation. We will continue to start the week with Write Dance and practical fine motor activities to develop automaticity in handwriting.

Maths

This half term, we'll be focusing on mental and written strategies to support addition and subtraction. In Mental Starters, we will be recalling number bonds within 10, recalling double facts within 10 and corresponding halves and recognising and using ordinal numbers.

To support Maths learning at home, please play games to help the quick recall of Maths facts.

Maths Tennis -Use your hand as a tennis racquet and count back and forth from different starting numbers or recall facts e.g. you say double 6 and I say 12.

Matching Pairs- Write facts on post-its and try to pair the facts e.g. 10 and 5 or 8 and 4 for halving pairs.

Snap! - Each partner should have a pile of number cards. Decide on a total and if you put down two cards to make the total, say 'Snap!'.

Homework

Reading is the most important homework you can do with your children at this age. Reading at home has a **significant** impact on your child's reading progress. Please read as often as you can at home, at least 4 times a week is preferable.

The children will also receive an optional homework sheet detailing our topic learning for this half term. Even if you don't complete the activities, the ideas are designed to inform families of learning at school.

Topic

Throughout the autumn term, we cover all foundation subjects from the National Curriculum. During our first topic, Tell Me a Story, we will focus on **Art** and **Science**.

In **Art** lessons, we will focus on using different brush strokes when painting, before learning how to mix colours with white or black paint to make the colour lighter or darker. We will explore the work of Jasper Johns.

Animals, including humans, will be the focus for **Science** lessons. We will identify and name a variety of animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals, as well as describing and comparing the structure of these animals. We will also name, draw and label basic parts of the human body.

Music, PE, PSHE and **Computing** are taught weekly. In **Music**, the children will learn to sing with good pitch, diction and expression. In **PE**, the children will compose sections of a class dance. **Computing** lessons will help the children to use technology to create pictures, sounds and words. Finally, in **PSHE**, we will learn how to keep safe including road safety.

Happy and Healthy

Show and Tell - Please save show and tell for Mondays. We love celebrating the children's achievements. Please keep toys, including Lego, at home.

Snacks- Please send children to school with a healthy morning snack or with 50p to purchase something from our tuck shop. Please continue to send in a named, empty water bottle.

PE- This takes place on Tuesdays. Please tie up long hair, remove earrings and send in socks to stay in PE bags when children wear tights to school.

Forest School -On Forest School days, the children should wear plain jogging bottoms and their usual school top. On colder days, remember layers, a hat, scarf and gloves.

If you wish to speak to us about anything, please leave a short message with Mrs Moss at the school gate, email office@blackwell.worcs.sch.uk or speak to us after school.

Thank you for your support,
Mrs Hampton (Monday and Tuesday),
Mrs Webb (Wednesday, Thursday and Friday)
Mrs Thompson (every day)



