



NEWSLETTER

for Blackwell First School- Red Class



A snowy Forest School



Learning road safety



Story night



The police came to visit.

Happy New Year! Welcome to a new term in Red Class. We had a wonderful end to the term with many festivities such as Christmas lunch, a theatre trip, a pantomime and not to mention our Nativity performance. I am very proud of all the children achieved in their first term at school. We start the term with our new topic, 'Picture perfect' where the children will be creating a film based on their learning in science and art to share with the rest of the school.

BITS AND PIECES

- ❖ PE takes place every Thursday. Please tie back long hair for **gymnastics**.
- ❖ Forest School takes place every Tuesday. **Remember named hats, gloves and thick socks please.**
- ❖ Reading books and are sent home on Fridays.

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 introduce one letter each day. Here are some top tips for writing at home:

1. Write little and often (5 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/watch?v=O6_5ixYrYLU&list=P_LpWN8MOsdvYJYWd3uU_75D9W2dqRKKdqd
6. Say the formation phrase together to support correct letter formation (see attached paper copy).
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!

What we will learn this half term

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 and retell, 'The lighthouse keeper's lunch' by Ronda and David Artmitage
- *Write labels and captions.

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.
- *Safely move on, off and over equipment.
- *Wake and Shake- 'La Bamba'.
- *Begin to form recognisable letters.

Science

- * Name, describe and sort materials.
- *Find similarities and differences between materials.

Art

- *Create props for our film.

Enrichment clubs take place every afternoon at 1.40pm. Children have completed their formal curriculum time by then and are very welcome to leave school at that time to support their transition back to school and indeed tiredness levels. Clubs are taught by school staff that the children know well and will include- playground games, board/ turn taking games, crafts, stories, construction and music. Clubs are taught in part as a whole class then as 2 smaller groups allowing for children to develop a multitude of skills wider than the National Curriculum.

**Many thanks for your continued support,
Mrs James, Miss Andersen and Mrs Hampton**