

NEWSLETTER

for Blackwell First School- Yellow Class



Welcome back! We hope that you all had a lovely half term break and enjoyed some exciting activities. This half term, our learning opportunities will continue to engage the children, with lots of enjoyable events happening, including a book celebration day! Mrs McDermott and I will continue to support the children in building their confidence in their learning and their independent skills. Our new topic is 'Stories', so we have lots of reading and writing opportunities ahead of us.

TOPIC

We start our half term with an inspiring topic – Stories! (See Literacy focus) In addition, through our Science curriculum, we will focus on humans and animals. Specifically, the children will be learning about why animals and humans need food. They will also be exploring the skeletal system and muscles in bodies.

In Art, we will be focussing on our painting skills in this topic. We will be focusing on the artists Vincent Van Gogh, Sean Scully and JMW Turner, taking inspiration from these artist to create our own artwork. We will also be learning some new techniques such as tonking, scgraffito and impasto.



PSHE, Music, Computing, French, P.E and Philosophy for Children are taught each week throughout the year. See our 'Curriculum' page on the school website for more information.

BITS AND PIECES

Please check that your child has the following in school with them every day:

- school book bag
 - home reading folder with reading book
 - water bottle and snack/tuck money
 - hooded, waterproof coat
 - P.E kit (to include jogging bottoms, shorts, **trainers and pumps**, white t-shirt, jumper, hair bobble for children with shoulder length hair or longer and a plastic carrier bag for muddy trainers)
- Please name **all** of these items to help misplaced items to be returned to the correct owner.

Forest School will take place on a **Monday for group 3, Thursday for group 4 and Friday for group 5**. The children know which group they are in but ask if you are unsure. PE will take place on a Wednesday. It could take place inside or outside so please ensure trainers, pumps and jogging bottoms are in their kits. If children wear earrings, it is a good idea to take them out on this day. If they need to remove them themselves, perhaps practise at home first.

If you would like your child to have milk or afternoon fruit, please email the office for a letter office@blackwell.worcs.sch.uk.

Please read with your child daily to help build fluency and develop word meaning.

LITERACY

As a class, we will read 'The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane'. This story will help the children to develop their vocabulary and comprehension skills. The children will then have the chance to write their own adventure story inspired by the book, using good word choices, paragraphs and expanded sentences to capture the reader's attention. The children will have regular handwriting sessions to help to continually develop their cursive handwriting to assist them in becoming fluent writers.



In spelling, the children will be taught a range of spelling conventions including adding prefixes mis- and re- and the /i/ sound spelt y. Different learning strategies will also be introduced to give the children ideas of how to practise spellings in a variety of ways. We will also practise reading and spelling the following tricky words:

calendar, caught, centre, century, certain, circle, complete, consider, continue, decide, describe, different, disappear, early, earth, eight, eighth, enough, exercise, experience.

The game 'Little Bird Spelling' on www.ictgames.com is very useful.

NUMERACY

During Numeracy, children will continue to take part in a range of activities to help develop their understanding of 2 and 3-digit numbers. They will also continue to improve their ability to add and subtract 2-digit numbers mentally and 3- digit numbers using a written method. Problem solving will take place every day to apply new learning.

We will also carry out separate problem solving lessons regularly to develop the children's logical thinking.

Mental maths starters will start to focus on counting in 4s, and we will be continuing to focus on number bonds to 100 and doubles and halves to 20. We will also revisit the 2, 5 and 10 times table to ensure the children know them by heart and out of order.

Daily times table practice at home significantly helps too!



I am really enjoying teaching your children and looking forward to the learning that is taking place this half term with our fantastic new book.

Please email the office if you have any questions or drop in informally at the end of the day. Thank you.

Miss Davis and Mrs McDermott