

# NEWSLETTER

## for Blackwell First School- Blue Class



**Welcome back after a lovely sunny Easter holiday.** Last half term ended successfully with the children's handmade story sacks being delivered to Abbeywood First School in Redditch. The story sacks went down a treat with their reception children and I have since heard from their class teacher who informs me that they continue to be the most popular choice of activity in the classroom! The children developed their decision making and collaboration skills during the project and they should be very proud of what they achieved. We are now in our final term which is always a busy one. Transition work will be an important aspect and I will be working to support the children in their preparations for a change in year group or new school! I look forward to lots of new learning and experiences during this term.

### TOPIC

'Rumble in the Jungle' is our new topic through which the children will be planning their own learning and skills needed to create 3D jungle art to contribute to a Worcestershire Arts project called 'Voices and Visions'. Blue Class will explore the use of modelling wire and mod rock to create jungle creatures and plants for the display.

Through Science the children will explore how animals move and grow focusing on skeletal structures. They will learn about plant reproduction and develop important scientific skills such as drawing conclusions.

ICT sessions will see the children researching about jungle life developing their use of search engines and URLs and discussing the accuracy of information found. They will be reading and sending emails and learning about e-safety!

Throughout the project we will be helping the children to plan their own learning and plan how they are going to achieve this. They will be given opportunities to enquire, review their own learning and take risks by making their own choices. All of which will support the children in continuing to develop into independent learners.

### BITS AND PIECES

Forest School sessions will not be taking place during this half term as the site is in need of a period of rest due to the increased number of sessions that have taken place so far this year. They will begin again after May half term.

Hopefully the sunny weather will continue so please ensure your child has a water bottle in school every day. However, due to the nature of British weather we cannot predict what each day will have in store. We enjoy learning outside so your child needs to bring a coat with them each day in case of unpredicted showers or colder weather.

If there is anything you are worrying about please come and speak to me at the end of the school day. I am usually available to speak informally after 3.15p.m. Thank you.

### LITERACY

During Literacy children will be reading and writing poetry about jungle animals which will then be displayed alongside their art work at Worcester Cathedral. Sentence level work will focus on the use of poetic language such as similes and alliteration. Phonics will focus on alternatives for various sounds such as f - ph, gh, ff and other spelling conventions including -ous and -ious endings and homonyms e.g. hear/here.

### NUMERACY

Over the next month children will be extending their understanding of division and fractions. They will apply their skills to solve one- and two-step problems. Encouraging dialogue and reasoning will be a focus this half term. Mental starters will focus on the 7 times tables, doubling and halving numbers to 100 efficiently and multiplying and dividing whole and decimal numbers by 10 and 100.

### EXCITING TIMES

This half term sees many exciting events taking place. Swimming will take place on Friday afternoons and bell-boating for Year 4s will take place on Monday afternoons. Please ensure that your child has the correct clothing and equipment on these days. Blue Class will also be sharing their jungle learning during a Family Assembly on **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May at 9a.m.** We hope to see you there.

