

NEWSLETTER

for Blackwell First School - Purple Class



Welcome back...



Welcome to a new term in Purple Class! What a strange time we are having, but I hope this newsletter keeps some normality where elsewhere it's lost. I do indeed miss seeing you all and being together, but thankfully our shared learning means that we will not be far apart! Have a sneak preview of some of the exciting learning we have for this half term in our Picture Perfect topic. If you have questions or queries, please do email the office or jot them down to ask when I next call.

TOPIC

This is a 'Picture Perfect' topic with some exciting, creative opportunities for learning.

We will begin this half term with a little bit of science to brush up on some of those scientific skills and then the main areas of learning will be Design Technology and Art.

In DT, children will get to grips with fixing and joining materials using sewing skills, to make their own fabric picture or wall hanging. Firstly they will investigate some existing examples of textile design and evaluate them. Then we will practise different sewing skills before designing our own fabric pictures. Then the fun (and tricky) part – following designs and using skills practised, children will create their pictures in fabric before evaluating them.

In art, we will explore the work of 2 different artists – Wassily Kandinsky and Anthony Frost. Their work will help us understand how space, colour and texture can be important in creating beautiful paintings. We will have a go at some artwork in their styles, before coming back to Van Gogh's artwork (which we'll be exploring in literacy) to create our own painting in his style.

I will plan alternatives for children who do not have access to needle/thread/fabric/paints.

We will continue with regular PSHE/philosophy, computing, music and PE.



OUR PROJECT:

WB 18.05.20 – Picture Perfect Art Exhibition!

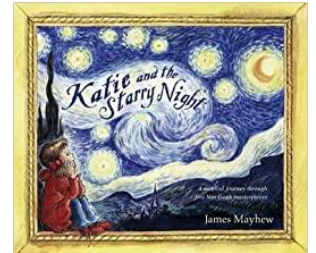
You are invited to enter your creative work from this topic into our online art gallery! I will ask you to send a photograph/scan of your final DT work and/or artwork into school.

I'll then be able to use it to create a collaborative Purple Class piece to submit into the gallery – I'll give more details in individual lesson plans.



LITERACY

Our key text for this topic is 'Katie and the Starry Night' by James Mayhew.



We will begin as always by exploring the story using reading skills and strategies.

We will then focus on good language choices and how to write good sentences using conjunctions such as *and*, *or*, *but*, *if*, *when*, *because*.

Children will continue to develop correct punctuation skills using full stops, capital letters, question marks and exclamation marks. Some children will explore the use of commas for a list and how apostrophes are used to show possession.

I will continue to plan phonics/spelling sessions and handwriting tasks for children to complete at home.

NUMERACY

To begin the half term we will explore fractions, to link with multiplication and division skills previously taught. As always, visuals will be important in supporting understanding and I will do my best to provide as many as I can whilst not in school.

Geometry is covered this term with the properties of 2D and 3D shapes recalled and used to find similarities and differences between shapes. Children will be taught to recognise shapes from pictures and objects also.

Children will explore measuring and calculating with length, height, capacity and mass. We will read scales in divisions of 1, 2, 5 and 10 where all the numbers on the scale are given, but also where not all divisions are labelled.

Of course I will continue to set activities to support mental recall of maths facts and will suggest lots of 'Number Fun' songs that can be useful and engaging. Details of how to access these songs are in the 'Additional Resources' letter on ParentApp.



READING Whilst we know children cannot change reading books regularly in school, please do keep reading any books as much as possible. We don't want to undo all that hard work! **Oxford Owl** has an excellent selection of the books that we use in school as ebooks which you can read for **free**. You just need to register with a free account and then you can browse the collection by bookband. <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-school/oxford-owl-ebook-collection> More details are in the 'Additional Resources' letter on ParentApp.