

NEWSLETTER

for Blackwell First School- Green Class



Happy New Year! We hope you have had a wonderful and relaxing Christmas. Welcome back to a new year in Green Class! The children have had such a wonderful start to their time in year one. Our last two topics, 'Tell me a Story' and 'Christmas' provided lots of opportunities for exciting learning. This half term is not starting as planned. What a surprise it was that we have not all returned to school because of the virus. We have planned lots of exciting learning for all of the children, whether they are at home or in school. Our next topic is 'Music to our ears' and there will be a beautiful story to explore as well as some music to inspire. Happy January Green Class families!

English

To start our half term, we will be reading about 'The Rainbow Fish'. We are using this story as inspiration for looking at poetry about the sea. We will be reading a lot to start with and retelling the story to help us and will then write our own poems and our own Rainbow Fish story. We are still focusing on the structure of a sentence: capital letters; sounding out words; including a verb; full stops and checking it makes sense.

In phonics, we will continue to learn alternative graphemes for known sounds which include split digraphs such as a-e as in cake and o-e as in bone. A huge focus for us as a school is reading fluency which is why it is always good for children to keep books for a few nights to first of all apply skills to work out all the words in the sentences, then to re-read them with increased fluency.

Daily handwriting takes place with a varied mixture of Writedance, practical fine motor activities and cursive letter formation. We are now also starting to join our letters. Please take any opportunity to practise joining letters at home through letter writing, postcards or lists.

Maths

We are starting the half term by exploring numbers and we will be counting, reading and writing numbers to 100. We will be using our number knowledge to compare and represent numbers in lots of different ways. We will then work through stages of addition and subtraction which will include: using concrete objects; calculating mentally; using written methods and then problem solving. We are also starting to look at multiplication and division facts, more specifically the 2, 5 and 10 times tables.

Take a look at what we did last half term!



Extras for children in school

Snacks – For children in school, please send them into school with 2 small healthy snacks such as fruit. Alternatively, the children could purchase a snack or two from our school tuck shop. Please send children in with some money (30p) if this is what you choose.

Clothing- As the weather is so interchangeable, please ensure children have a warm, waterproof coat in school at all times and that all hats, gloves and scarves etc are named.

Extras for children at home

Reading- You will be able to read with Mrs Garner or Mrs Cain each week so find your reading slot on the Home Learning sheets and click to join them.

Registration – We look forward to saying hello each morning so please join us for a few minutes if you can.

Returning work – Please see the Home Learning sheet so you know what to return each day and use our greenclass@blackwell.worcs.sch.uk email. I will email you back.

Topic

Our new topic is called 'Music to our Ears' and we will be working together to create a lovely project at home or school. We will be learning the story of 'The Rainbow Fish' and retelling this, alongside performing a fish puppet show to 'Aquarium' by Saint Saens.

We are starting our topic learning by focussing on Art. We will be exploring paint and how it can be used in different ways. We will be using a story stimulus to inspire our art learning this topic.

Our next subject learning will be Science. We will be exploring everyday materials their properties. We will be looking at lots of different materials such as wood, glass, plastic, metal, water and rock.

For general enquiries, please email office@blackwell.worcs.sch.uk or telephone the school office and leave a message so we can get back to you. If you wish to email about work at home, please use greenclass@blackwell.worcs.sch.uk
Thank you for your support,
Miss Davis, Mrs Thompson, Mrs Garner and Ms Cain