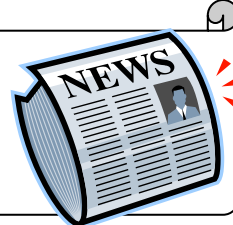


NEWSLETTER

for Blackwell First School- Purple Class



Welcome back!

We hope that you all had a fantastic Easter and didn't eat too much chocolate! We have an exciting half term of learning in Purple Class where we will be going on a journey around the world and visiting Africa for our new topic, 'Globe Trotters'! As we move through the weeks, we have a wonderful trip to Worcester Cathedral and the Coronation Celebration Day to look forward to.

TOPIC

We are going to start this half term with a topic called 'Globe Trotters'. Geography and RE are the focus areas of the Foundation Subject curriculum taught during this topic.



In Geography, the children will develop their geographical skills by learning about Africa. Their learning will build up to answering our research question:

'What is it like to live in a village in Zambia compared to Blackwell?'

We will interpret geographical sources to investigate Nyangombe in Zambia and then use reasoning to compare with Blackwell village. At the end of their learning, the children will be able to explain the differences and similarities of the two villages and answer our research question.

R.E. will focus on what makes places sacred, where we will be developing knowledge and understanding of personal beliefs and the beliefs of others. This learning will begin with the trip to Worcester Cathedral, a great opportunity to explore a sacred place of worship and to deepen thinking.

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

Thank you for working at home on targets given during parent consultations. We appreciate the support given to help your child progress, particularly with reading and mental maths. It does take a long time for skills and facts to become embedded and secured, so please do continue to work a little and often on these targets. If you would like another copy of the targets given, please ask.

Forest School will be **Monday** for **group 1**, **Tuesday** for **group 2**, **Wednesday** for **group 3**, and **Thursday** for **groups 4 and 5**.

Children can come to school wearing jogging bottoms on the day they go.

Please do continue to read with your child, ideally daily, to help build fluency, confidence and understanding. As children become more confident, please question them about the characters' thoughts and feelings and about the meaning of new words. Another skill for year 2 is to be able to make links between different books e.g. similar plot, characters etc.

At the end of our first topic, we will welcome you in to listen to a performance of some of our music from this term. Pop along to Purple Class on the afternoon of Friday 5th May.

LITERACY

As a class, we will read a selection of West African folk tales featuring Anansi, the trickster spider. Children will first develop their story understanding through questioning, identifying word types and summarising. Then they'll have the opportunity for story writing, including many Anansi schemes and tricks, just like in the original stories.



We will continue to build on previous learning about punctuation, adjectives, conjunctions and verbs and will support children in checking, editing and improving their own work.

Handwriting sessions will continue to focus on specific letter formation and some number formation too, as well as letter joins.

In spelling, the children will be taught further spelling patterns and rules such as doubling the consonant before adding a suffix and also more homophones and near homophones. We will learn to apply these spellings in sentence writing.

These are the tricky spellings to focus on this half term:

great, break, steak, sugar, every, everybody, even, money, water, half, clothes

Tricky spellings from Autumn and Spring term will be revisited.

NUMERACY

In numeracy this half term, children will consolidate their understanding of fractions and problem solving involving fractions. Many children find fractions challenging, so using fractions such as halves and quarters in daily language would definitely support understanding and retention.

There will be a focus on measure this half term, to include money, length, mass, volume and temperature. Again, referencing measure in daily life will really help embed children's understanding.

We'll continue to work on rapid recall of doubles and halves up to double 20, mental addition and subtraction of one and two digit numbers and instant recall of multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 times tables.

Squeebles and hit the button are great apps/websites to use to support this mental recall.



We are looking forward to all the exciting learning this half term in Purple Class!

Please email the office or catch us at the end of the day if you have any questions. Thank you.

Miss Chamberlain, Miss Kuriger, Mrs Thompson and Mrs Morgan