

NEWSLETTER

Blackwell First School – Purple Class



Welcome back! I can't believe how quickly this year is going! We have already had two great terms together and I am looking forward to watching the children grow even more during their final term in Purple Class. It was lovely to meet with many of you at the recent parent consultation meetings. Many thanks for your continued support when working with your children at home to support them to achieve the targets from their reports. Last half term saw the children design, make and taste their very own delicious 'pirate broth' and they researched Blackbeard and Anne Bonny to create and play their own game of top trumps. I continue to be proud of the class for their attitude towards their learning and the personal skills they show, such as good sportsmanship.

TOPIC

We begin this term with our new topic 'Take a Trip'. Here, we will find out lots about different places in the world. Science, Geography and RE are the focus subjects for this topic.

In Science, we will be learning about what bulbs and seeds need to develop into mature plants and we will conduct our own scientific experiment about the conditions needed for plant growth. In Geography, we will think of similarities and differences to compare an African village to Blackwell village. In RE, we will be learning about what makes a building sacred and we will compare and contrast Christian and Muslim buildings.

Music, Computing, PE, PSHE and Philosophy are taught throughout the year. The school website has information about these subjects in the 'Curriculum area'.

During the final week of this half term, we will enjoy a week designated to sport.

BITS AND PIECES

Enrichment club groups have changed for the Summer term (please see separate parent app message).

Forest School Days -

Group 1 – Mon / Group 2 – Tues / Group 3 - Weds

Please send your child in wearing plain, dark jogging bottoms/leggings on these days.



Please read with your child daily to help build fluency, and develop comprehension.

HOMEWORK

Weekly homework remains optional for KS1 but it would be good practise for Year 3 to see more children completing some of the activities sent home at the start of the half term.

SPELLING

It is the expectation that children will be able to spell all the Year 1 and 2 keywords by the end of the year so whilst we don't routinely test children, instead practising daily, any support you could offer with this would be appreciated. Please help by choosing between 6 and 10 Year 2 keywords a week and practising the spelling of them. Find fun ways to keep children motivated such as magnetic/magazine letters, water 'paint', chalk, spelling pyramids, bingo or word scrambles.

SATS

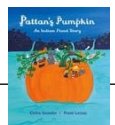
There is no longer national testing (known as SATS) from this academic year. The school uses its internal assessment to assess the children's standards and progress, aligned with the national curriculum. This is a much more helpful indicator of the children's ability and helps us plan their next steps for learning.

PE

PE is always usually outdoors every Tuesday this term. Please make sure your child has trainers as part of their PE kits and children who wear tights need a pair of socks in their PE kits. Hats are needed in school during sunny weather too. Long hair must be tied up and earrings removed on these days.

ENGLISH

To begin with this term, Mrs Moss has given us a new book. We will read 'Pattan's Pumpkin' a traditional flood story from Southern India, written by Chitra Soundar. During our English lessons we will learn and write a retell which we will then perform with actions to the rest of the school in assembly. Spelling, handwriting and discrete reading sessions will continue.



MATHS

End of year expectations for mental maths include being able to recall 2,5 and 10 times tables and division facts, find doubles and near doubles to 20 + 20, recall half of even numbers up to 40, + and - 9 from a 2 digit number, order numbers from 0-100 and use < and > signs when comparing them, recognising odd and even numbers, + and - two 2 digit numbers and partitioning numbers in different ways. Please continue to practise these at home to develop the children's rapid recall. In our daily main maths lessons, we will be learning to tell the time to five minute intervals, as well as quarter past and quarter to on analogue clocks. It would be useful if you are able to support your child with this learning in day-to-day life.



The children did a great job performing their pirate dance at the dance festival at South Bromsgrove High School.



We hope that those of you who were able to come, enjoyed our Easter 'Singing on the steps' performance.

If there is anything you wish to ask about, please come and speak to me at the end of the day or send an email to office@blackwell.worcs.sch.uk

Many thanks as always for your ongoing support,
Miss Bailey, Mrs Hampton and Mrs Cooper