

NEWSLETTER

for Blackwell First School- Yellow Class



Welcome back

We hope that you all had a relaxing break with lots of rest and play. We are now half way through the year and I look forward to the rest of the year with you all. Our new topic is 'Baghdad AD900' and we look forward to learning about what life was like for people who lived in Iraq at this time.

TOPIC

We are going to start this half term with a topic called 'A Land far away- Baghdad AD900'. History and Art are the areas of the Foundation Subject curriculum taught during this topic.



In History, the children will develop source analysis skills by looking at different primary and secondary sources to learn about what life was like in Iraq in AD900. They will then be using the knowledge they have learnt to answer our historical question; 'It was better to live in Iraq AD900 than in Britain AD900. Challenge or agree?'

Art learning will focus on 3D art. They will be able to develop and build on their skills of using 3D materials such as clay and paper in different ways. We will be forming clay slabs, paper formed relief surfaces and responding to the work of Howard Hodgkin.

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.

LITERACY

As a class, we will read 'Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves' which is a folk tale retold by Katie Daynes. The children will first develop their understanding through questioning, posing questions, word identification and summarising before creating an innovated story based on information learned from the book.



We will be focussing on literary features such as fronted adverbials, conjunctions and paragraphs. Handwriting sessions will focus on specific letter formation (where we have spotted inaccurate formation), capital letter formation and size and some number formation too.

In spelling, the children will be taught a range of spelling conventions including the /s/ sound spelt 'ch', words with 's' and 'ss' and revisiting suffixes such as '-less' and '-ly'. We will also practise reading and spelling the following tricky words:

natural, naughty, notice, occasion, occasionally, often, opposite, ordinary, particular, peculiar, perhaps, popular, position, possess, possession, possible, potatoes, pressure, probably, promise, purpose, quarter, question.

The game 'Little Bird Spelling' on www.ictgames.com is very useful and the children enjoy playing this.

BITS AND PIECES

Please check that your child has the following in school with them every day:

- school book bag
- home reading card and folder
- named water bottle and snack/tuck money
- hooded, waterproof coat
- P.E kit (to include jogging bottoms, shorts, **trainers and pumps**, white t-shirt, jumper, hair bobble for children with shoulder length hair or longer and a plastic carrier bag for muddy trainers)
- wellingtons and a pair of thick socks

Please name all of these items to help misplaced items be returned to the correct owner.

Forest School for children in Yellow Class will take place on alternate weeks this half term. This is so that every child can access all clubs we have on offer. Please see the group list sent on Parent App for your child's group. Children can come to school wearing jogging bottoms on the day they go on both weeks to help you all.

Please read with your child daily to help build fluency, develop word meaning and check their inference skills.

NUMERACY

During Numeracy, children will be completing a range of activities to help develop their understanding and use of multiplication. The children will continue to develop their mental skills, before moving onto learning written skills, as well as their problem solving.

They will also be introduced to statistic work, such as reading and interpreting different graphs and data.

Mental starters will focus on counting in multiples of 11s, and the 11 x table, doubles and halves of all numbers to 100 and multiplying by 4 and 8. **Daily times table practice at home significantly helps too!**



Squeebles and hit the button are great apps to use.

We are looking forward to the exciting learning this half term in Yellow Class.

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

Miss Davis, Mrs Marks, Mrs Flynn and Mrs Dudek