



Blackhall Primary School

Bluebells Newsletter- January 2022



Happy New Year

We would firstly like to wish you and your family a happy new year. Again we would like to welcome our new starters who have recently started Bluebells. The Early Year's team look forward to working closely with these children and their families. We can't wait for the eventful year ahead!

Remember look out for your child's photographs on the schools Facebook page.



REMINDER!

Please could children bring their holiday homework back to nursery by next Friday. We can't wait to see what our children and families have been up to during the festivities!



SNACK MONEY

£1 per week

Please could we remind parents to bring snack money into nursery each week. This enables us to provide a healthy snack for your child and also allows us to provide children with a variety of cooking activities. Children also need a bottle each day filled with **WATER**.



Important dates:

School Closes Friday 18th February.
Reopens Monday 28th February

Mothers' day celebrations TBC

Forest School TBC

Easter craft TBC

What's happening next term?

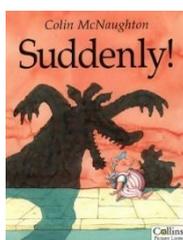
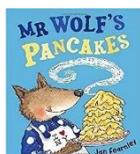
Our topic this term is 'Traditional Tales.' We will primarily focus on the stories of 'The Gingerbread Man' and 'Little Red Riding Hood.' The children will be baking cakes for 'grandma' and of course making delicious homemade gingerbread men! During the story of the Gingerbread Man the children will be encouraged to use their 'thinking skills' to plan alternative ways of crossing the river. Will they make a bridge? Build a boat?..... 🤔

In Bluebells we regularly explore various cultures and talk about similarities and differences. In February this year children will help celebrate Chinese New Year: The year of the tiger.

Following British traditions, on Tuesday March 1st we will celebrate 'Shrove Tuesday' and cook pancakes. This will lead us into other wolf stories such as 'Mr Wolf's Pancakes' and 'Suddenly!'



Mathematics- In mathematics, we will exploring simple AB patterns, e.g. red, blue, red, blue, red, blue. The children will be using toys and everyday items to create their own patterns. It would be lovely to see children making patterns at home using spoons, fruit etc. Please upload your child's learning to Tapestry. Children will also begin to understand and use positional language to discuss the journeys of Little Red Riding Hood and the Gingerbread Man. To support language at home, play simple games such as 'hide and seek' or 'Simon says' and emphasise vocabulary such as 'on,' 'under,' 'behind,' and 'next to.'



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Things to do at home:

Three Year Olds: **WRITING**

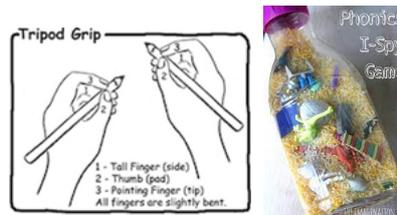
Many of our children can confidently identify their names. As part of their next steps in learning help support your child in writing their names **using the correct formation**. Accomplishment of name-writing is a beginning step in developing awareness of the alphabetic principle (i.e. matching sounds with letters). Children learn that there is a difference between scribbling and letters grouped together, that words and letters have meaning. Encourage children to recognise letters from their own names. Encourage children to connect letters they know from their names with letters in words they do not know to facilitate literacy and sound-to-letter matching.

IDEAS TO SUPPORT NAME/ LETTER WRITING

Demonstrate writing your child's name.

- Have your child trace over your version. It may be fun to use multiple colours of crayons/markers for a "rainbow" effect.
- Have your child trace his name on fine-grit sandpaper using chalk or markers.
- Look at books involving different letter identification.
- Have your child play with letter blocks and encourage him/her to trace the shape of the letter following the route he would take to write the letter- i.e., top-to-bottom and counter-clockwise.
- Encourage your child to practice tracing or writing his name on a vertical surface such as an easel or chalkboard.
- Have your child form the letters of his name using rolled-out Play Doh.
- Point out letters that are in your child's name when you are out shopping on signposts. Make a game out of it to see if your child can recognise the letters.
- Use cards with letters on them. Encourage your child to place them in the correct order to spell their name.

REMEMBER TO ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD TO HOLD THEIR PENCIL USING A THREE FINGERED TRIPOD GRIP.



Extension for more able children:

This term we will be looking at and recognising words with the same initial sound. E.g. Sss (sock, sun, Santa). This is called 'alliteration.' Can your child think of simple sentences/ phrases containing words beginning with the same letter. E.g. 1) Silly snake sat in the sun. 2) Super Santa. 3) Smelly sock.

Emphasise the first letter in each word. Can children think of items which begin with the same letter of their name? Can they spot letters from their name in their environment? Can they think of items which begin with these letters? Play games such as I-spy, fill bottles/jars with items that begin with the same letter (See Above).