



'The Dragonflies and The Fireflies'



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the Spring Term in Reception. We hope you had a lovely Christmas break and enjoyed time with loved ones. Thank you to those parents, who have uploaded photographs onto Tapestry or sent emails of your child during this festive period. We have thoroughly enjoyed sharing them with our peers.

Topic: Traditional Tales and New Life



Our topic this first half term will be traditional tales, with a particular focus on the following stories: 'The Three Little Pigs' and 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff'. The children will be retelling the stories in a variety of ways and exploring different challenges that the characters might meet on their journeys. Although we will be focusing on these stories, we will also be listening to lots of different traditional tales to spark a love of reading amongst our children. The children will also be given lots of opportunities to use their imagination both indoors and outdoors, accessing a wide range of resources and provision.

Please encourage your children to talk about their favourite traditional tales; thinking about who the characters are, what happens at the beginning, middle and end etc.

During the second half term the children will be exploring new life, discussing the question – 'what came from the egg?' We will be discussing the life cycle of a chick, where they came from and what happens on their journey. During this particular topic, we hope the children will be learning some new and interesting vocabulary. Please encourage this with your child as much as possible.

PE: Our PE day is Friday this term.

At Blackhall Primary School, our PE kit consists of a purple top with school logo, black shorts (tracksuit bottoms for cold weather) and plimsolls. PE shorts and extra tops, with the school logo can be purchased from Tots to Teams. While Covid guidelines are still in place, your child will need to attend School in their PE kit on Fridays.

Reading – Our Gruffalo Reading Journey will recommence this half term. For your child to move up our reading trail they must do two of the following:

- Watch/Practise their Read, Write, Inc sound videos
- Read their Read, Write, Inc book bag book (if they have been allocated one)
- Share their library book with an adult

In order for your child to successfully move along the trail you **MUST** record and evidence each reading activity that is completed. Please record this in their reading log. We hope to encourage a passion for reading within our children so your support in this

Important dates:

Spring 1st Half Term – Possible school trip (TBC)

Monday 14th February and Tuesday 15th February – Parents Evening

Last day of the first half term - Friday 18th February 2022

Back to school – Monday 28th February 2022

Thursday 3rd March – World Book Day

Monday 7th March – Arrival of Living Eggs

Friday 18th March – INSET Day

Tuesday 5th April – Easter Crafts for the Early Years

Last day of the second half term - Friday 18th February 2022

Attendance: REMEMBER EVERY LESSON COUNTS!

It is a National Expectation that children should attend school in order to benefit their education. The Dfe feel that ‘children with poor attendance achieve less in both primary and secondary school.’ Our school target this year for attendance is 96% and we ask for parents to support us by ensuring your child is in school, because if they’re in school, they’re learning!

As an incentive to encourage excellent attendance within our pupils, we have a weekly Attendance League and the winning class overall for the term are given a treat. Let’s hope our ‘Dragonflies’ or ‘Fireflies’ can be Blackhall’s winners for the Spring Term.

Thank you to both pupils and parents for your support in this matter.

Tips and reminders –

- ❖ Please remember to ring our school office if your child is absent for any reason on 0191 5864049.
- ❖ Any changes in your personal details, please update our office, in case we need to contact you for any reason.
- ❖ Don’t forget to check our newsletters for any key dates for upcoming events.
- ❖ Please LABEL all of your child’s clothing as this will hopefully prevent any lost items from occurring.
- ❖ Snack money is £1 collected every Monday.

Thank you for your support

Mrs Maguire, Miss Ridley, Miss Bowes and Miss Mason