

## Blackbird Class Newsletter – Spring Term

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope you had a good Christmas and thank you for all my lovely presents.

Listed below is a brief run-down of the topics your child will be covering this term to enable you to discuss school with them in more detail.

We are continuing with our handwriting and spelling practices each morning, which culminate in a dictation containing the week's spellings on a Friday.

Please remind your child to read daily at home and at least three times a week to an adult. I have ensured that they all have something suitable to read and will continue to give the children old copies of First News to take home. I would be grateful if you could sign their diaries and add any comments that you wish; it is an important means of communication and ensures continuity between home and school. The children will be given homework on a Monday to be completed by the Friday of the same week. Please support them with this work and encourage them to share their weekly spellings with you as well.

Their times tables are coming along nicely although regular practice is still needed, so please continue to take advantage of journeys to and from school to fire the occasional mathematical question at them! Telling the time is still problematic for a lot of the children so parental input in addition to class work will make a big difference.

We will be looking at Britain's settlement by the Anglo-Saxons and Scots in History and linking different parts of the curriculum to this where appropriate. In Geography we will be looking at the continent of Africa as part of our work towards a display in the corridor as well as familiarising ourselves with the map of Europe. Our work in Art and Design & Technology will support these areas of the curriculum.

Our Science this term will focus on Properties and Changes of Materials, but we will also be following the news and discussing items from around the world to broaden the children's general knowledge.

The children will continue learning to use algorithms in Computing, as well as programmes such as Publisher, and Word and searching the internet for topic related information. In R.E. we will be looking at sacred writings in different religions and studying the Easter story.

We will be continuing to run the daily mile from Monday to Thursday. Most of the children have a separate pair of trainers in school but they would all benefit from a spare pair of socks in case they come back with damp feet!

If you have any questions or concerns, please come and make an appointment with me; I will be happy to see you after school.

Claire Layer (Class Teacher)