

Blue Class (Year 3)

Summer Term 2024

Welcome back! We hope you have had a lovely Easter break and enjoyed your time! I am really looking forward to a lovely summer term with the class.

Our topic for this term is 'North America'. This topic will find us developing our map skills and looking at North America. The children will understand the geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography in North America. They will locate and focus on the countries of North America, concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics and major cities. Children will describe and understand the biomes and vegetation belts in North America in contrast to the rest of the world. They will also learn about how and when North America was "discovered," looking into the chronology of great events in North America contrasting it to the UK and looking at connections between the two countries.

Keeping active and healthy

Blue Class will have P.E. on a Tuesday afternoon with Mr Blackmore, the Achieve for All coach and we will also be ensuring we complete our daily mile as part of encouraging an active and healthy lifestyle. Forest School will be starting again on Thursday afternoons. For this, the children still need long sleeves and trousers, due to ticks and other bugs in the forest area. As part of our healthy lifestyle, we also ask that the children have a named water bottle in school that is filled with water to help keep them hydrated throughout the day. A healthy snack e.g. fruit for morning break is also recommended, please ensure the snacks are sugar free, fruit or vegetables.

Home learning

Reading

The children are growing in confidence and do like to read to themselves – this is great but we also expect every child to read at home out loud to an adult for at least 3 x 10 minute sessions a week, more if possible. Please record in their reading diaries if you have heard your child read and encourage them to write in their diaries each time they read independently. Please remember we do listen to the children read at school so it is important that their book comes into school every single day. Each read should include our VIPERS (Vocabulary, Infer, Predict, Explain, Retrieve and Summarise), these are used regularly in class and encompass all comprehension skills required throughout KS2.

Times Tables

The children need to continue to develop their times table knowledge this term and by the end of year 3, should know their 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10 times tables. It would be helpful for them to think about the divisions that they know with each times table too e.g.

If I know $6 \times 3 = 18$, I also know $3 \times 6 = 18$ and $18 \div 3 = 6$ and $18 \div 6 = 3$.

There are a range of different games that will help to develop children's number fluency so a few 10- minute sessions a week will be really beneficial.

Spelling

Finally, spellings need to continue to be part of their weekly routine for home learning. This is not to be considered a test, the last thing we want is for children to become stressed about spellings, however they do need to learn them. The spelling shed list will change each Thursday. We will also be teaching specific spelling rules in class as well as our daily vocabulary sessions.

Forest school

We will begin to have our forest school sessions on a Thursday afternoon so please bring a spare change of clothes and trainers or welly boots.

Sun cream and hats

As the weather gets warmer, please think about whether the children need sun cream or a hat at school. Please make sure these are named and that children are confident applying sun cream independently.

As always, if you have any questions, please contact me on class dojo. I will aim to reply within 24 hours within school times.

We look forward to having a great summer term together. Thank you for your continued support.

Take care,

Miss Davies and Miss Yola 😊