



# Blackthorn Class Newsletter

January 2025

## Welcome

### Hello and Welcome back to Spring Term,

We hope you had a lovely Christmas break with your families and feel well rested, Its lovely to see our pupils back in school.

We have lots of exciting learning opportunities in store over the coming weeks, keep a look out on EFL for photos of your children taking part in activities throughout the school day.

If you are struggling to access EFL and need a friendly reminder please reach out to your team for support and someone will get back to you with guidance.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us via the school office, home school diaries or by email - [joy.ward@saxon.set.org.uk](mailto:joy.ward@saxon.set.org.uk)

**Your class team,**

**Joy, Isabel, Nancy, Kelly and Bea**

## Topic

This term our topic is "A day In the life of a Artist/Librarian". We will be working on identify our favourite stories, different styles of stories and how a library works as well as showing preferences of our likes and dislikes.

We will also be looking at the Artists Kandinsky and Jackson Pollock, painting with shapes and exploring abstract art.

**We follow the play based learning approach. This topic will be covered through role play, interactive stories, art, music, messy play etc. Following our engagement scale and children's interests throughout.**

## Cooking

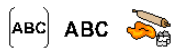
On Thursday's is our cooking session this term we will be travelling to a different country each week and learning about there traditions, We have been filing stamping our passport each week of places we have visited with a photo of something we have enjoyed.



## Book focus this term

This terms book focus is 'A Mid Summer Nights Dream' We have broken the play down into weeks, will be exploring a different aspect of the story each week through continues provisions, sensory materials and Drama. We will watch snippets of each scene and simplify this through out the week.

## My Communication



We have a wide variety of methods of communicating in class and this is modelled by staff throughout the day. This includes Intensive Interaction, PODD, Makaton, switches and tactile signing.

We continue to push our love of reading in class during our daily tactile/sensory story sessions.

Our Sensory story for this half term is 'A Mid Summer Nights Dream' and 'You might be a dragon'.

We have started a Speech and Language programme we practise each day called Mr Tongue this increases a child's awareness of their tongue and lip movements. Tongue movements and coordination of these movements are crucial to speech development and clarity. Awareness of tongue movements can assist when directions are given to encourage imitation of correct speech sounds.

## Phonics

Each morning we take part in our pre-phonics session. This term we will be working on General sound discrimination-Environmental and Instrumental sounds.

This includes listening and responding, Intensive Interaction, using switches and mark making activities we then apply our learning through play sessions at the end of the week to recap on our learning.

These are 20 min Sessions.

We will be sending library books home every Friday each pupil will chose a book to share at home, please spend some time sharing this with your child and fill in the reading record provided.

## Hydro & Rebound

Our Hydro sessions are a Wednesday morning, please send in your child's swimming kit on the day. We will work on a rota to ensure all pupils get a session,

Our rebound sessions are on a Friday morning for pupils who have permission to attend.



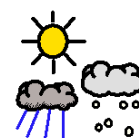
## Snack time

If you wish to send in a snack and juice for your child please do so, you can do this daily or send enough for the week which we will store in their box or fridge.



## Weather

Please remember to send your child with appropriate clothing for the weather, especially as the weather can be unpredictable at this time of year.



## Forest School

Blackthorn will take part in forest school on alternate Tuesdays with our forest school teacher Isobel. Please send warm clothes that you don't mind getting dirty and water proofs on this day.

## EFL

Don't forget to check Evidence for learning to see photos of your child's learning. We would love to see what you get up to at home, don't forget you can upload photos to the portal.

If you need help accessing this please get in touch with your class team for support.

## Cognition-

### Thinking and problem solving

During cognition sessions we are developing our thinking and problem solving skills. We follow a play based learning approach, We explore continuous provision through tuff trays linked to learning objectives.

We are focussing on Measure, capacity and weight- Inset puzzles, shape sorters, measuring objects and identifying which is bigger and smaller, filling and emptying . Create simple constructions with blocks.

## PSHE

This term our topics will be about Mutual respect -Healthy friendships, not making others feel alone.