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Headteacher Mrs Andrea Farrant



April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you had an enjoyable Easter break and are looking forward to all the exciting activities that summer term brings. Mrs Potton and I are so proud of the children's progress since the start of the year, and we are eager to continue supporting them through the weeks ahead.

The summer term will be a busy and rewarding one. Alongside continuing our engaging curriculum, we will begin discussing and preparing the children for their transition into Year 6. Our aim is to help every child grow in confidence, independence, and resilience, so they feel well-prepared and positive about the year ahead. As always, your support at home makes a real difference. Encouraging reading, maintaining positive routines, and supporting homework will help the children make the most of this important term.

Curriculum information:

Reading:

Thank you for your continued support with reading; the children are continuing to make great progress. As you are aware, it is expected that all children read at least three times per week and have their reading recorded/signed by an adult in their reading record. The expectation remains high as we near the end of the year, and, given that reading comprehension is a key target for the class this term, I cannot stress enough the importance and impact that reading and book talk have. The children are aware that they can change their reading books as regularly as required, and if they find themselves seeking more texts, each child is set up on Pearson Active Learn (Bug Club) where they can access more stories linked to their book bands. Logins can be found in homework books.

Writing:

We will begin summer term with the exploration of *Children of the Benin Kingdom* by Dinah Orji, before looking at Mordicai Gerstein's *The Man Who Walked Between the Towers*, Sharna Jackson's *High Rise Mystery* and Kate Winter's *The Cave Explorer*. Key outcomes linked to these texts will include a non-chronological report, biography, extended narrative and tourist leaflet. GPS will cover a range of topics including conjunctions, relative clauses, modal verbs, adverbials, parenthesis and formal/informal structures.

Maths:

After recently completing our maths topic Area and Perimeter, this half term will focus on Statistics, Shape and Position and Direction. Then, during our final half term, we will tackle Decimals, Negative Numbers, Converting Units and Volume. In addition to our daily maths lessons, the children will be revising key arithmetic skills on Wednesdays with Mrs Cooper.

Science:

This term, science will focus on the topic Living Things and Their Habitats, closely exploring the life cycles of plants and animals. This will aptly prepare us for our final topic (Animals Including Humans), which will cover the life cycle of a human.

Other:

PE days will remain as Tuesday and Wednesday. Lessons on Tuesday will consist of athletics and rounders activities, while the children will explore confidence, control and water safety in swimming lessons on Wednesday. Please remind your child to bring in their fully named swimming kit and PE kit on these days.

Other topics we will study this term include the Maya Civilisation, Extreme Climates, Hinduism, Relationships, Musical Improvisation, Coding and Portraits. Any further information about our curriculum can be found on our 'Curriculum Overview' on our class page.

Additional information:

Homework will continue to be set on Fridays and be due the following Wednesday. Support for homework remains available in school, however we encourage children to firstly attempt activities independently and to the best of their ability, as this allows us to identify strengths and gaps in learning more easily.

We have numerous exciting events coming up, including our class residential to Thriftwood, Career's Week, Sports Day and a visit from Lesley BYT! Details for these events will be sent to you via ParentMail and I will continue to upload relevant images of our endeavours onto our class page.

I hope you are looking forward to another positive, successful term ahead!

If you require any further information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via the parents@blackmore.essex.sch.uk email address or catch me on the playground at the end of the day.

Thank you again for your continued support,

Miss Strong

Class 5 Teacher