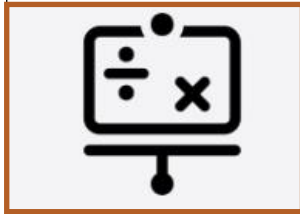




Blackhorse Primary School Newsletter

T1 Wk8: 25th October 2024

The Importance of Times Tables



Times tables are one of the most important things we teach at Blackhorse. Time and again, we see children with a fluent recall of times tables facts achieving

well in maths.

As children move on through the school, so many areas of maths rely on a strong understanding and quick recall of times tables: fractions, area, perimeter and decimals to name a few. If a child does not have to think about their tables or use their fingers they have more capacity to think about the new area of maths they encounter.

Times tables are taught explicitly at the start of Big Maths sessions in Years 2, 3 and 4. The children learn a new table each term. These are chanted, sung, recalled and drawn. These same tables are then set on TRimes Tables Rock Stars for the children to purposefully practise. For anyone falling behind, we work with them with the help of parent volunteers to help learn and recall the key tables.

Times Table Rock Stars is the way we help children to learn their tables at home. By completing their weekly homework of 15 or 20 minutes per week the children demonstrate Personal Effort and Purposeful Practice and help turn their heat map Green and demonstrate they know all their tables facts.



Exciting New Opportunity Homework Hub

As a school we understand that finding the right space and time for home learning can sometimes be a challenge. This is why we are opening 'Blackhorse Homework Hub'.

This is an opportunity for you and your child/children to come into school and complete any home learning that you may have for the week. This could include Numbots, TTRS, Reading, Phonics, Spelling or you may choose to use it to extend your knowledge of other areas of the curriculum which you are interested in.

Mrs Taylor will be on hand with snacks and drinks and to support you and your child if needed, but this is a space for you to work together as family, creating life-long habits for learning and celebrating success. We are running this as a pilot for term 2 and would appreciate your feedback. If you have any questions or feedback, then please email the school office FAO: Mrs Taylor.

Homework Hub will be open for you from 3:30-4:00 every Tuesday.

Attendance this term

Thank you for your efforts to ensuring your children are in school and ready to learn each day. Our average attendance for the term is **95.8%** which is a little lower than the 97% target we set ourselves.

Rec: 95.6%	Y1: 97.1%	Y2: 95.1%
Y3: 96.4%	Y4: 95.7%	Y5: 96.3%
Y6: 94.8%		

Term 2 Diary Dates:

Mon 4th Nov: Start of Term 2

Wb Mon 3rd Nov: PTA Book Fair

Thurs 7th Nov: PTA Books at Bedtime

Thurs 14th Nov: EYFS Intake 2025 Open Morning

Wb 18th Nov: Infant Agility & Sportshall Athletics

Fri 22nd Nov: PTA Wreath Making Event

Tues 26th Nov: SEND & You coffee morning

Thurs 28th Nov: Flu Vaccines

Fri 29th Nov: INSET Day: school closed to pupils

Thurs: 5th Dec: Blackhorse Illuminations & Carols

Tues 10th Dec: Reception Nativity 9:30 and 2:15

Weds 11th Dec: Christmas Lunch

Thurs 12th Dec: Y4 visit to Roman Baths

Thurs 12th Dec: KS1 Christmas Performance 2:15 & 6

Fri 13th Dec: 9:15 Rec & KS1 Achievement Assembly

Mon 16th Dec: Y3/4 Christmas Performance 2:15 & 6

Tues 17th Dec: Y5/6 Christmas Performance 2:15 & 6

Weds: 18th Dec: 9:15 KS2 Achievement Assembly

Fri 20th: PM Year Group Christmas Parties

Fri 20th Dec: Last day of Term 2

This week's Champion...

Success is our focus this week and George in Willow has been chosen as our Champion.



Miss Jenkins writes George is such a deserving champion. He has completed his first term in Year 6 with a consistently positive attitude and a motivation to always do his best and, because of this, he is making excellent progress already.

His politeness, kindness and brilliant sense of humour make him incredibly well-liked by the whole school community and, if we had more people like George in the world, it would be a much better place. He also has the best dance moves you have ever seen! Congratulations George - we are so proud of you!

This week's Champions!

Each week, the staff nominate one child per class who has been a model pupil, demonstrating the values which we look for in Champion Learners! This week we have been focussing on the school value of success. This week our nominees are:

Year	Nominees
Resource Base	Lex & Jonnie
Reception	Primrose & Reeve
Year 1	Dylan & Lottie Sm
Year 2	Idris & Amber
Year 3	Sophie & Chloe S
Year 4	Zena & Theo
Year 5	Rose & Theo
Year 6	George & Esmee

Come and join the Christmas Choir!

- Tuesdays after school until 4:15pm
- Years 3-6
- Perform after school, care homes, Sainsburys!



Bedtime Stories Thursday Nov 7th

Come back to school with a favourite teddy for a bedtime story. Year 6 have the chance to have their story around the campfire. Whilst children listen to a bedtime story, parents are invited to browse and purchase from a selection of books in the school hall. Refreshments will also be available.

Tickets are only £1 per child and this includes a drink and cookies! You can purchase tickets [here](#).

Please remember to follow the instructions when booking and enter your child's correct class and any allergies.