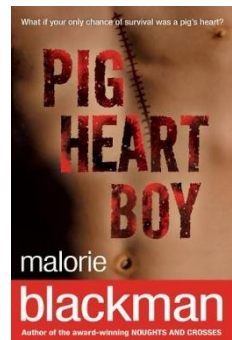


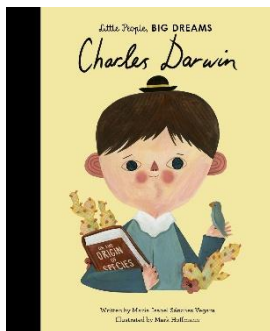
Dear Children, Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Blackman Class! I hope that you have all had a lovely Summer break, and are as excited as I am at starting a new academic year. I am really looking forward to getting to know all of you and getting started on what will be an excellent year.

Our first class text this year will be *Pig Heart Boy* by Malorie Blackman. *Pig Heart Boy* is a gripping and emotional novel that explores medical ethics, identity, and friendship through the story of 13-year-old Cameron Kelsey. Cameron is dying of heart disease and agrees to undergo a groundbreaking xenotransplant—receiving a heart from a genetically modified pig. As he recovers, Cameron faces intense public scrutiny, media intrusion, and bullying, all while grappling with what it means to be human.



Our first writing genre will be biography writing, based on a famous figure of the children's choice. The children will begin this research during our English lessons, but will also be encouraged to continue this at home which will support them to boost their knowledge of their chosen biography subject, as well as fuel their enthusiasm for the writing project. To



help us to understand the structural and grammar features of the text type, we will use biographies written about Charles Darwin linked to our Science topic; in particular, the *Little People, Big Dreams* text written about him. We will also explore writing complex noun phrases and fronted adverbials before planning, drafting, editing and publishing our work. In our second writing unit of the term, the children will predict and write the next chapter from our book, *Pig Heart Boy*, in the style of Malorie Blackman. We will focus on using a wide range of conjunctions, figurative language and varying sentence length.

The children will also continue working hard to develop their handwriting and spelling skills through focused sessions throughout the week. By the end of term 1, most year 6 children will be writing with a blue biro, with many year 5s following soon after.

Our first Maths topic this year is going to be Place Value. Here, the children will be starting off working practically, where they will be representing numbers up to a million/ten million. Also, the children will be identifying and recognising roman numerals up to 1, 000.

The children will be partitioning digits in different ways and comparing and ordering numbers. Within this unit, the children will develop their rounding skills, where they will be rounding any

number. Throughout this topic, the children will be counting up and down in 10's, 100's, 1,000's and 10,000's. Moving on from place value, the children will be adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing. Within the four operations unit, they will be practically calculating to begin with, applying their place value knowledge. Then, the children will be using formal written methods, before using the most efficient method for a given calculation.

Throughout their learning in maths this term, the children will be exposed to a variety of different word problems and reasoning style questions, prompting them to draw from their knowledge and use their skills to answer them with increasing efficiency and accuracy. Our regular recapping of core arithmetic knowledge will enable them to feel more confident with this also.



Our first Science topic of the year is Evolution and Inheritance, during which we will work hard find out how living things have evolved over time. We will research our key scientists for the term, Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace, and will find out about their significance in the field. We will learn about evolution and how fossils can be used to find out about the past. We will learn about how living things produce offspring but usually, offspring vary and are not identical to their parents. We will find out about how living things adapt to suit their environment and that adaptation may lead to evolution.



In RE this term we will be exploring the question: Should creativity matter in religious worldviews? – with a focus on music. In this unit, pupils build on learning from KS1 by engaging in interpretation of religious narratives about the origins of the universe. They will apply this learning to the diverse ways in which religious people express - or do not express - their creativity through music.

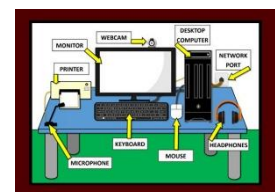
During our first Geography topic, we will be learning about Coastal Erosion, in order to form opinions on the question: Should we fight coastal erosion – or let nature take its course? During our Geography lessons, the children will learn how to use maps to identify seas and oceans around the UK and the world, know why coasts erode and how we stop them from eroding, know the ethical implications of eroding coasts and know how local areas, such as Hunstanton, has been affected by coastal erosion.



In PE this term, we will be exploring fitness. We will learn about how speed, strength, agility and balance, co-ordination and stamina can help us to complete various activities,

Our first Jigsaw (PSHE) topic is will be 'Being me in my world', where we will learn about our year ahead, being a citizen in Britain, responsibilities, rewards and consequences.

In Computing, we will learn about systems and searching within computer networks. In this unit, the children will learn about joining computers together to create a system and how we use these in our daily lives. We will also learn all about how search engines work and how the order of events are important.



## Homework

The children have a Homework Menu that includes tasks that will support them with their learning that can be completed throughout the term. They will continue to have additional homework set on Reading Eggs and Mathletics on a rotational basis each week. These will

be set on a Friday commencing on **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September**, and should be completed by the following Thursday.

As we know, the time that children spend reading has a huge impact on their education. It would be amazing if children can explore books on a daily basis, when they get home from school, before they go to bed or at another time that suits you family best. This does not have to be the same narrative text everyday; shorter stories and non-fiction texts provide excellent practise and a source of knowledge too. At this age, your children will be reading to themselves more often, but do check in and ask them questions about what they have read or found out as much as you can. If the children get their reading diary signed 3 times per week by an adult, they will receive a stamp towards their reading rewards.

Regular practise of times tables will also have a huge impact on the progress that we make in maths this year – very quick but very often being the most effective approach at keeping tricky facts within their working memory. The children will be becoming more and more confident with their times tables by now, so focusing on the corresponding division facts will provide them with that extra challenge. The app, 'White Rose 1-Minute Maths' is really simple to use and provides quick practise of a wide range of maths skills.

#### PE and Outdoor Education

PE lessons will be on a **MONDAY** this term, where the children will need to come to school in their school PE kits.

Outdoor Education will be on a **FRIDAY**, where the children need to come to school dressed appropriately, with waterproof clothing and wellies, just in case!

Thank you in advance for all of your support this year,

Mr Liddle