

# The Blue Letter: 15th May 2020



Dear Parents/Carers ,

Thank you to the parents and carers who have responded to my email about the potential partial reopening of school. I will continue to keep you updated with the situation.

Just a reminder that it would normally be half term from Monday 25th May and, in anticipation of any partial reopening, school will be closed for half term. We won't be setting any home learning for that week. If you want to provide work for your children during that week, they may have some unfinished tasks from this half term or you might want to consider using the National Oak Academy and BBC bitesize resources. Monday 1st June will continue to be an INSET day as planned. Any reopening and further home learning will be set from Tuesday 2nd June.

I have emailed Owl Class parents separately, but the Cobnor trip will unfortunately not be taking place. We are really sad for our year 6 children that they will not be able to go on this. We are still planning to be able to celebrate in some way with our year 6 children the end of their time at Primary School. The residential is being rebooked for May or early June next Summer and Year 5 children will be able to transfer their place. More details will follow.

We hope all families continue to stay safe and well.

## Worship@home

Our theme for next week is Perseverance and our bible verse is 2 Timothy 1 verse 7

"For the Spirit that God has given does not make us timid, instead his spirit fills us with power, love and self control."

Perseverance can be defined as, 'the strength to carry on doing something, even though it might be difficult'. We are used to this in our learning – working at challenging maths questions helps us to be

better mathematicians, and exercising can help us to get fitter. Sometimes, we find certain times hard – many people are finding the present time difficult. Christians believe that God, through the Holy Spirit, gives us strength to face hard times – He is with us and walks alongside us. How have you have been persevering recently?



Look at the website whole school section of the home learning pages for ideas linked to this week's verse and theme. Can you complete any of them?

We'd love to see how you get on.....

## Specsavers Virtual School Games

Well done to anyone who has completed the challenges and entered their scores on the website <https://www.activesussex.org/virtual/>

We came second in the hockey week and 14th last week in the tennis. I wonder how this week's football has gone? It's not too late to join in if you haven't registered. Lucas, has enjoyed this football challenges this week.



Isabelle's information about the Rio Negra is beautifully presented.

### Rio Negro!

The Rio Negro or Guainía is the largest left tributary of the Amazon River and the largest blackwater river in the world!

Where is the source of Rio Negro?  
The source of Rio Negro is not actually in Argentina, it is in Colombia!

Why is it called the Rio Negro?  
The Rio Negro was named by Francisco de Orellana, a Spanish explorer, in the 1500's by the middle of the 1600's lots of tribes had settled on the bank, but unfortunately the tribes started to catch terrible diseases!

The Rio Negro mainly flows through Argentina, South America and is 2,230 kilometres long!

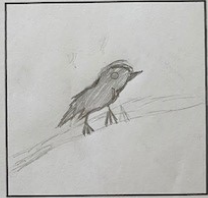
The Rio Negro means Black River, but the water colour looks a bit like the colour of strong tea because of the humic acid from the incomplete breakdown of phenol-containing vegetation caused by the sandy clearings!

The water of the Rio Negro is used for making electricity.  
It is also used to water lots of grains and fruits, including wine grapes and apples which are transported to Europe.

By Isabelle Woodard

Thomas has been busy finding out about the blackbird.

### The Blackbird

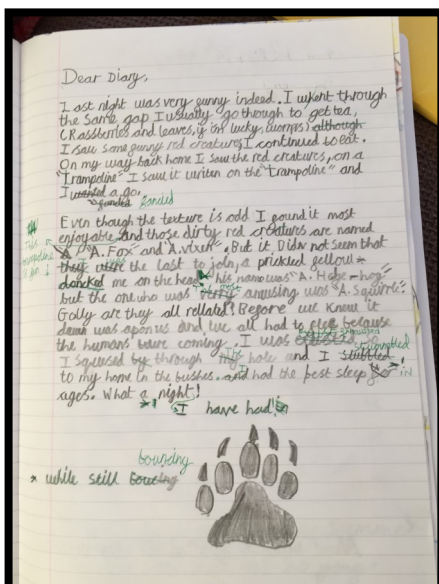


The common blackbird has a scientific name of *Turdus merula* and comes from the Turdidae (thrush) family.

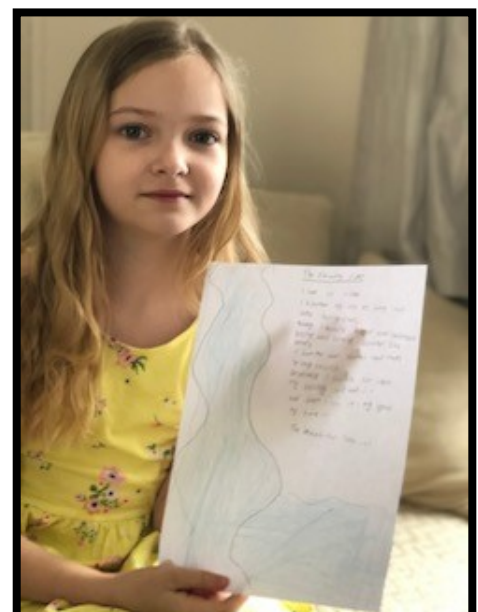
Male blackbirds are entirely black in colour however, females are actually dark brown with lighter brown on their front.

The favourite things for blackbirds eat are earthworms but they also eat other insects, caterpillars, fallen fruit and berries.

Blackbirds makes nests in gardens and it's often possible to get quite close to one. They also like to nest in woodland and grassland areas.



Pheobe has worked hard on her river poem



Leon is remembering to proof read and edit his writing