



Reception Lent 1 Newsletter

Welcome to our Lent term in Reception. This half term we will wonder what is special about winter.

English

This half term as writers, we will be focusing on:

Captions and writing instructions. Using correctly formed letters, beginning to spell words by identifying sounds and blending.

We will be considering what is special about winter. We will be reading the story of Jack Frost. One cold morning a lonely boy wishes for something to do. His animal friends are hibernating, and he has nobody to play with—even all the birds have flown south. When he meets Jack Frost, the last thing he expects is to make a new friend . . . or to discover how enchanting winter can be! We will be story retelling and creating our own frozen friends. We will be looking at the different clothes we need to wear during the cold winter period and why. Then we will be reading Lost and Found. There once was a boy and one day a penguin arrives on his doorstep. The boy decides the penguin must be lost and tries to return him. But no one seems to be missing a penguin. So, the boy decides to take the penguin home himself, and they set out in his row boat on a journey to the South Pole.

But when they get there, the boy discovers that maybe home wasn't what the penguin was looking for after all.



We will be thinking about travelling to the South Pole, what would we need to take on our journey, how would we get there, and what do we think it would be like.

Maths

In Maths, this half term, we will be continuing to access Power Maths. As Mathematicians, we will be focusing on:

- Reviewing numbers to five; recognition, representation, numerals and number bonds
- Investigating numbers within 10
- Number bonds to 10, addition and subtraction.

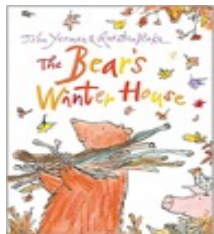
As mathematicians, we will be focusing on our mathematical vocabulary and our critical thinking skills. This will help the children to make links and notice patterns in their previous learning experience. Make predictions and test their ideas, allowing for a change of strategy where needed.

R.E

Our focus for RE this half term will be our Local Church and the community. The Church's celebrations are community occasions. On Sundays, the parish family gathers together. It is a time to remember how much there is to celebrate; a time to say thank you; a time to know that God's love is offered and made visible here and now in Jesus and in people. Sacraments are more formal special moments: signs of 'God-with-us', who journeys with his people; signs of strength and blessing for life.

Topic

Our topic this term will focus on where we live and the season of winter which offers cross curricular opportunities with our reading books in English. We will also be looking at information books such as:



"The Bears winter House" The bear is behaving very strangely indeed: collecting moss, logs and branches to build a winter house. The other animals think this is silly, and laugh at him, but when winter comes, bear is cosy in his winter house while the other animals suffer in the cold. Being a very kind bear, he invites the others in. Unfortunately for the bear, they are too excited to sleep, and it seems he will get no rest at all this winter! Sharing this book will allow the children to discuss how bear built his winter house.

We will discuss the signs of winter; What does it look like? How does it feel? How does it affect us? How do animals survive the winter season.

In addition, we will be investigating the area in which we live. The different places in our community, how we find our way around and the importance of using maps and following instructions. We will participate in a local walk where we will be able to identify various landmarks that we can use to produce our own maps and instructions on how to navigate ourselves around our local community.

This will support the children in meeting the ELG concerning "Understanding the World" where children begin to understand about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things. They talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one another. They make observations of animals and plants and explain why some things occur and talk about change

P.E

P.E will be on a Tuesday. Please make sure your child has their full P.E kit; school t-shirt, shorts/leggings and pumps or trainers.

Phonics

During the first term the children focused on the RWI set 1 phonemes (letter sounds);

m, a, s, d, t, i, n, p, g, o, c, k, u, b, f, e, l, h, sh, r, j, v, y, w, th, z, ch, qu, x, ng, nk

This term we will review all of the set 1 phonemes and continue to learn the set 2 digraphs (two letters making one sound) and trigraphs (three letters making one sound):

ay: may I play
ee: what can you see
igh: fly high
ow: blow the snow
oo: poo at the zoo
oo: look at a book
ar: start the car
or: shut the door
air: that's not fair
ir: whirl and twirl
ou: shout it out
oy: toy for a boy

Our school website provides information on how you can help support your son's / daughter's phonics development at home.

How can you help?

- Maths and English homework will be set weekly on either Edshed or Education City. Homework will be set on a Friday and will be available to complete by the following Friday. If you have any trouble accessing either of these programs or would prefer a paper copy, please come and see me and I can arrange this for you.
- Reading is a vital part of a child's education. In school your child is bench marked and given a book accordingly. As your child becomes increasingly confident in their phonic knowledge, they will be given a reading book that reflects their phonetic ability. Please read with your child each night to continue to support your child's progress.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Parkinson