

Dear Parents/Carers, here is our topic for this half term. Please use it to aid your own research or bring things into class to support our learning. Have fun!

As communicators we will: Play listening games and build a bank of exciting words to describe the cold wintry conditions in the Polar regions. We will discuss our dreams and where we would like to explore. We will orally retell stories through role play. We will explore mark making using a range of materials such as snow, jelly, coloured sand, shaving foam and custard.

As individuals and friends we will:

Learn to get along with each other and to value friendship. We will explore our feelings, using stories like 'Lost and found'. In this story the lonely penguin just wanted to find a friend. We will think about how to care for birds and other animals in winter.

Who wants to be an explorer?

Spring 1st half term 2017

As healthy movers we will:

Handle tools in the classroom safely including scissors. Using play dough and clay we will develop our fine motor skills ready for writing. Through physical activities we will gain hand eye coordination. We are developing our throwing and catching skills. You can practise these with me at the park.

We will learn to zip up coats and put hats, scarves and gloves on by ourselves.

As artists, actors and musicians we will:

Draw and paint Arctic animals. Make polar bears and other animals using a range of materials.

Make junk model boats and sledges, thinking about how to join materials together.

Make music as an accompaniment for our story. Act out stories and change the ending.

Recreate expeditions in our role play area.

As explorers and investigators we will: Become explorers and travel to the Polar Regions. We will experiment to see how ice melts and freezes.

We will learn about animals that live in the Arctic and Antarctic. We will use a globe to locate the North and South Pole. We will look at how Eskimo's live and become one in our Igloo.

We will learn about Chinese New Year celebrations, exploring Chinese culture and traditions. In our outside area, we will build space ships to travel to the moon!

As readers and writers we will:

Read a range of non-fiction and fiction books about polar animals. In our Arctic role play area we will be writing postcards home to tell about our adventures.

We are learning to give meaning to the marks we make and we do this by observing adults. We will make up stories by looking at pictures.

Once upon a time... We will read traditional tales.

In our phonics sessions, we will learn to tune into environmental and instrumental sounds, create body percussions as well as listening to rhymes, alliteration and initial letter sounds. We will learn how to recognise and write our name.

As mathematicians we will-

Create our own repeating patterns using different coloured pasta.

We are developing our number skills, learning to recognise and form the numbers from 1-10. In nursery, we will have a 'Number of the week' that we will focus on. We will use Numicon to help with our concept of number, counting pebbles and shells to put into the holes. We will order Numicon and become familiar with the colours.

We will sing songs to do with counting forwards and backwards, such as 'Five little snowmen'.

As effective learners we will:

Work together, take turns and share. Show our own interests, which will inform our teacher's planning.

Take risks and try new activities. Try again when something doesn't work the first time.

