

EYFS Newsletter

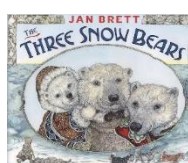
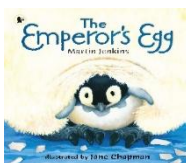
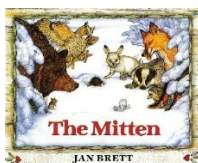
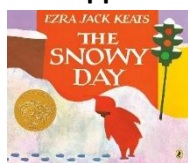
Spring 1



Theme: Arctic and Antarctic Explorers

Get ready for a super cool term! Our class is going on an amazing adventure to the North Pole (Arctic) and the South Pole (Antarctic). We will learn all about brave explorers and how animals like polar bears and penguins live in the snow and ice. Learning will be fun and hands-on! We will do fun science experiments with melting ice, learn how to read simple maps, and move like waddling penguins. We also have special days like Chinese New Year, Safer Internet Day, Valentine's Day, and Pancake Day to celebrate! It's going to be a very exciting term!

Book opportunities:



These are some of the books we will be exploring, listening to and enjoying during this topic.

Reading and Writing:

Nursery

This term, we are starting our phonics journey with the Read Write Inc. (RWI) scheme, focusing on identifying initial sounds using picture cards. We will also continue to develop key pre-reading skills like rhythm, rhyme, and alliteration. In writing, we will encourage lots of early mark-making, such as creating pretend lists, and practising forming letters, especially those found in the children's names.

Reception

We are continuing with our Read Write Inc. (RWI) phonics this term, with a focus on children reading and writing simple CVC words (like cat and man). We will also be practising writing simple sentences with support. Through our topic, The Arctic, children will explore a variety of texts, focusing on re-telling stories and having discussions around these. A strong emphasis will also be placed on correct letter formation and confident name writing.

Maths:

Nursery

This term, we will be focusing on foundational number skills. This includes practising taking and giving 1, 2, or 3 objects and developing subitising skills by talking about dots. We will also work on matching and sorting collections. A key area will be exploring patterns, starting with children leading their own repeats, and introducing positional language through push and pull.

Reception

This term, our Maths work will focus on securing number knowledge up to eight, concentrating on ordering numbers and exploring the 'staircase pattern'. We will also introduce the concept of doubles. In measurement, we will be covering mass, capacity, length, and height. We will also introduce methods for counting larger sets, explore odd and even numbers by sorting attributes, and begin to learn about time by ordering and sequencing events.

Physical development:

This term, we will focus on strengthening motor skills. Nursery will use Dough Disco to boost fine motor muscles, while Reception will concentrate on establishing a strong, accurate pencil grip for writing. In PE, we will begin our

Communication and language:

We will be expanding our communication skills this term. We will engage with new stories, focusing on re-telling and discussing them while learning a range of new topic vocabulary. We will continue to practise key speaking skills,

<p>Dance topic, exploring how different body parts move and practising remembering and repeating actions.</p>	<p>including asking questions and confidently taking turns in back-and-forth conversations with friends. We will also discuss the importance of careful listening.</p>
<p>Expressive Arts and Design: This term, children will create winter collages and move expressively to represent polar animals and weather. We will encourage imaginative role-play to act out narratives. We will also explore new cultures by designing and creating traditional decorations for the upcoming Chinese New Year.</p>	<p>Understanding the world: We will learn how the Arctic (North) is different from the Antarctic (South). We will be scientists by watching ice melt and doing an experiment to see how animals stay warm. We will learn about Chinese culture and talk about being safe when using the internet.</p>
<p>Suggested home learning activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading phonics book 3 times a week (Please sign diary)- Reception • Weekly homework in homework books- Reception • RWI videos on class dojo- Reception • Reading/ listening to book chosen from the library • I- spy games • Read lots of rhyming books and sing rhyming songs. Say two words and ask, "Do these words rhyme?" (e.g., <i>cat/hat, fun/run</i>). • Encourage them to create pretend lists (e.g., a shopping list or a list of toys) to promote early writing attempts. • Practise reading and writing simple three-letter (CVC) words like <i>cat, dog, sun, man</i> on cards or whiteboards. – Reception • After reading a book, ask your child to be the teacher and re-tell the story to you, focusing on the main characters and events. • Continue to practise writing their full name using the correct letter formation (starting and finishing letters correctly). – Reception • Look for small collections of things (e.g., 1, 2, or 3 buttons, apples, or toys) and ask "How many are there?" without counting (subitising). • Use small toys or snacks to practise "taking 1 away" or "giving 1 more" to introduce simple addition/subtraction. • Use numbers you see around the house (e.g., on the TV, microwave, or house number) and practise putting them in order up to 8. – Reception • Engage in activities that strengthen hands: kneading playdough, threading beads, using clothes pegs, cutting with scissors, and drawing with small crayons. 	