

Dear parents and carers,

Happy New Year! Our topic for this term is 'Frozen Landscapes'. We will be finding out about The Arctic and the Antarctic. This will be taught in a cross-curricular manner. We will be using books, paintings, photographs and eye witness accounts to gain knowledge about the geography, weather, wildlife and people who live in these regions. As part of our topic we will be welcoming an Arctic explorer into school. In art we will be exploring hot and cold colours through different mediums and creating our own Arctic landscapes based on the beautiful scenes by Ted Harrison. Cooking will see us learning about frozen foods and how to cook them.

Phonics continues in year 1 and year 2. Each day children will have a daily session, on phonics, guided reading, grammar and handwriting. To help children prepare for year 2 expectations we will be using key grammatical terms in the classroom - a guide to these can be found at the back of your child's planner. Please continue to hear your child read daily and note this in their planner.

English will see us looking at the features of non-fiction texts. We will write our own information booklets on Arctic animals and non-chronological reports on the physical features and weather of the Polar Regions.

Maths will continue to focus on the key areas of problem solving, shape, space, measure, number, and data handling. We will be using and applying our mathematical skills through practical activities. Home support with number bonds and times tables is invaluable. Children are required to use facts from the 2, 3, 4 5 and 10 times tables by the end of year 2.

Our Science lessons this term look at all things living, dead or was never living. We will look at habitats and what each habitat provides for its living things.

PE kit will be needed for Wednesdays and Fridays - kit should remain in school until half term please. We will be exploring ball skills and games and interpretive dance. In Music we will be exploring Peter and the Wolf.

PSHE will see us looking at how to keep ourselves safe and learning how medicines can make us better when taken correctly and responsibly. In RE we will be looking at similarities in prayer and worship of Christians and Jews. We will be learning about Saint Valentine for our next shared church service. Our Collective Worship will focus on the value of trust, and then in the second half term we will move on to compassion.

ICT will be taught as a cross-curricular support to topic, as well as a discrete subject to equip children with the skills they will need. We will be learning about finding images of animals (linking this to our Science), researching facts on the seven countries with the Arctic Circle and exploring maps.

Fruit and a school lunch are provided free of charge in Key Stage 1. Your child may bring an additional healthy snack or a packed lunch if you wish. Please ensure all school clothing and coats are named. Homework will commence in week 3. Please use the school planner for any non urgent notes or queries as the start of the day is an important learning time. Staff are available informally at the end of the day or by making an appointment through the office.