

## Weekly Updates 11.01.2019

### Early Years

We are all enjoying learning new Makaton signs and next week we are going to learn the sign for friends. We have also been trying to learn the 'Something Special Hello' Song that is available on the Cbeebies website.

The children have really enjoyed all our activities linked to the Polar Regions. Mrs Matthews took the Reception children on a Penguin Hunt in PE on Wednesday and Mrs Dade took the Nursery children on Thursday. Luckily we found the big penguin behind the curtains!

Next week in Maths we will all be focussing on 2D and 3D shapes and in Reception symmetry too.

As the weather has now got much colder can we please remind you to bring mittens / gloves and hats into school and labelled with your child's name please.

### Nursery

The children have really enjoyed all our activities linked to the Polar Regions particularly our role-play area they are all very good at catching fish in our hole in the ice! We have been finding out what happens when you add salt and warm water to ice and ice painting. Next week we will continue with finding more about the Polar Regions, we will be listening to more penguin stories and making penguins. As it is getting colder here we will be making some bird feeders for our garden.

Our sound of the week will be 'm'; please can you bring in some objects for us to look at beginning with this sound.

### Reception

We have our indoor PE session on **Wednesdays**. The children will just need shorts (not tracksuit) and a t-shirt, both of which need to be labelled with your child's name please.

We have been focussing our learning around some books about Penguins and linking them to the activities we have been doing in Maths. We will continue this next week and would love to see any pictures, books or stories that you may have at home.

We are very pleased with how hard the children are trying to write their names although some of them are too keen; some children are trying to join up their writing. It is important that they are forming the individual letters correctly before learning to join them. When practising at home please remind your child to use a capital letter at the beginning of their name and all other letters lowercase.

Rainbow Class will be making bird feeders next week and taking them to the woods on Monday to leave for the birds. Please make sure your child has wellies on that Monday if it is wet.

We feel the children are ready to come into school independently now. Many children try but unfortunately there are so many adults in their way they are struggling to get to their pegs or into their classes. Mrs. Reynolds is at the door to take any messages and these **always** get to the teachers as soon as the doors close. If you need to speak to the teacher please pop in - but let your child put their own things away.

We hope you have a lovely weekend from all the EYFS Team.

### Year 1

We have really enjoyed the story of 'The Three Bears' this week, though not everyone was a fan of porridge! Next week in Literacy we will be continuing our work on the topic of traditional tales and reading the story of 'The Gingerbread Man'.

In Maths we have been learning our number bonds to 20, thinking about how they link to number bonds to 10 and looking for patterns within the number bonds. Next week we will be adding two numbers together by counting on.

In Science the children enjoyed exploring a variety of materials thinking about the words they could use to describe them – hard, soft, smooth, rough. Next week we will be outside looking at the materials that have been used around the school and thinking about why they may have been chosen.

Thank you for hearing your child read at home and for helping them learn the words from the lists provided last term. It is so important to do this regularly in order to support your child's development. Thanks for your support.

Have a lovely weekend. Let's hope the sun shines next week!

The Year One Team

### Year 2.

The children have been working hard on their new topic this week, learning which countries are in the Arctic Circle and where to locate them on the map. They have also studied the arctic climate, looking at the differences between Summer and Winter there.

Both classes enjoyed swimming this week – hopefully any nerves or worries will be gone now! Thank you for making sure the children have a named towel, costume and swimming hat.

In Maths this week both groups have been learning about division. By the end of Year 2 all children should be able to recall division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 times tables i.e. 10 divide by 2 is 5.

In English Mr Winch's group have been studying fairy tales. Mrs Alexander/Mrs Gilbert's group have been practicing punctuation skills by writing sentences about arctic animals.

In Computing this half term the children are learning word processing skills using Microsoft Word. If you have this at home, why not ask them to show you what they can do?

Have a good weekend

The Year 2 Team

### Year 3

The children have had a busy week and are enjoying some new and challenging topics in many subject areas.

Next week, we are continuing with our keyboard skills in Computing and with so many devices being touch screen, the children were very interested to notice some of the other keys on the computer.

We have started to break down the skills involved in a rounders game in our outdoor PE lesson. Last week we looked at throwing and catching and this week moves onto batting. Please do ensure your child has warm kit as there were many chilly children on Tuesday this week! Please also note that 'fitbits' should not be worn for PE. Any children wearing these will be asked to remove them for the lesson. The class teacher cannot be held responsible for these items, so your child must either not wear them on PE days (Mon and Tues), or put them in a safe place (tray or bag).

In Art, we are introducing the children to the work of Giuseppe Arcimboldo and will begin to create a piece of art inspired by his work. We need lots of pictures of food for this project, so would appreciate any 'food magazines' to be sent into school as soon as possible!

In Music this week, we will be listening to 'Samba' and identifying some of the instruments used to create this style. In Geography, we have been learning about maps. Could you help your child by revising the countries of the UK and their capital cities, as well as the seven continents of the world.

We hope you all received a copy of the new Home Learning Menu for this Half term. Just a reminder that one piece of homework should be handed in by Thursday each week.

Have a great weekend,

Year 3 Team

## Year4

The children are really enjoying our new Geography and Science topic 'The Polar Regions'; we started this by watching some of the BBC's Frozen Planet which the children were completely fascinated by. The children have learnt about the climate and key physical features of the Arctic and Antarctic and have researched countries in the Arctic Circle. This week we learned about climate zones around the world. In science we have studied the seven key processes of living things – MRS NERG! See if your child can remember all seven!

In music the children have been learning about the British Composer Edward Elgar and listened to 'Land of Hope and Glory'. Next week they will continue with learning the recorder. Please make sure that these are in school each Wednesday this term.

In Art we have begun a new topic which focuses on 'Pop Art'. We have been looking at the work of Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein. Next week we will begin drawing portraits in this style.

The children are having a qualified gymnastic coach on Mondays and they really enjoyed their first session with her. For our outdoor Rugby lesson please make sure your child has a warm outdoor kit and a carrier bag for their muddy trainers. Please ensure that shoulder-length hair or longer is tied up and that earrings are either removed or taped over on PE days. (Only studs please)

Maths homework is to log onto and start using the 'Times Tables Rock Stars' website. The best way to access this is through the link on our school website. The school has paid for this membership so there is no need to pay anything further. Each child has been given a log in. Children must have at least 10 goes in the 'studio' section to get their baseline speed before proceeding with exploring the rest of the site. The children have been shown what to do in an assembly and in their maths class.

It was lovely to welcome Mrs Howell to the Year 4 team this week. She will be covering the rest of Mrs Plumb's maternity leave.

Have a lovely weekend.

Year 4 Team

## Year 5

The children have made an excellent start to the new term. They have really enjoyed looking at the work of Gaudi and, next week, will be using one of his sketches to draw their own. In outdoor PE, the children will be learning rugby skills and indoor, will be doing gymnastics. In French, the children have been recapping on food words and will be learning vocabulary related to making a sandwich. In Science, they conducted an investigation to find the best insulating material and will carry out a further experiment to establish which material is the most absorbent. In RE, the children are learning about parables and will focus on 'The Lost Sheep.' In PSHE, we have looked at methods of payment and will look at how to plan a simple budget. In Geography, the children will be looking at the region of Catalonia and locating key features on a map.

Have a lovely weekend

The Year 5 Teaching Team

## Year 6

What a productive first full week back we have had in Year 6! The children have come back after Christmas ready to learn with a fantastic attitude: we have already begun a piece of assessed writing!

We have been particularly impressed with the way the children have approached their new SATs books this week. Everyone has completed their homework in a timely manner and to a good standard – long may this continue!

As a reminder, please encourage your child to ensure that all books are in school every day, as they will occasionally be used during lessons.

### The homework for this week is:

Reading: Non- Fiction: pgs 2-11 Due: Thurs 17<sup>th</sup>

Maths: Practice workbook: pgs 12-15 Due: Tues 15<sup>th</sup>

Spellings have been set today Due: Friday 18<sup>th</sup>

We will be looking next Friday to ensure everyone has been logging onto Times Tables Rockstars and regularly practising through playing the games. The games have been tailored for each child, so that they

are tested on the Times tables we feel they need to work on. This is will adjusted when needed, throughout the year.

This week we have started a new set of past SATs papers to better prepare the children for May. Again, we have been extremely impressed with the calm and mature way in which they have approached these. We hope that this positive attitude will continue, as the more we are able to practise, the more prepared and confident the children will be. We will be completing some English past SAT papers early next week. We will be using the data from this set of papers and those from before Christmas ourselves to assess any gaps in knowledge which we will focus on, but may also use them to ensure all children are supported in the correct Maths and English groups. This may mean that some children will be moving between groups.

We have noticed that some children have not been reading regularly at home and this is impacting the rate in which they are taking Accelerated Reader quizzes and their performance in reading comprehensions. Please encourage your child to read regularly at home as this will benefit both them in their reading comprehension and also their writing.

Finally, as previously mentioned, P.E days this term are on Wednesday (Indoor) and Thursday (Outdoor). Please ensure your children are prepared with warm clothing (which you don't mind them getting muddy), and a plastic bag for muddy shoes for the outdoor sessions.

We hope you have a relaxing weekend after a busy first week back!

The Year 6 Teaching Team