

28th February 2019

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back after the half term holiday. I hope you all had a restful break and I am delighted to see the children back with the same enthusiasm for learning! Amazingly, we are over half way through this academic year, and once again, I would like to outline the curriculum for this half term.

We have three main topics that we will be covering this half term, those being **"The Arctic and Antarctic"**, **"Peter and the Wolf"** and **"Easter"**.

Thank you again for your continued support.

Mrs Stearn

<p>English</p> 	<p>The children will continue to have weekly spelling and grammar lessons and write for a range of purposes including instructions, descriptions, poetry and recounts. We will learn how to use inverted commas and similes, and think about how to improve our descriptive vocabulary. As usual, we will continue to work on developing a neat handwriting style, and applying our phonic knowledge to support spellings. We will continue to give the children lots of reading opportunities and encourage an ethos of "Reading for Pleasure". We will also be answering questions about the texts we read in order to develop comprehension skills and extend vocabulary.</p> <p>The whole school will be enjoying a "Poetry Week" in the week beginning 4th March in which we will be learning about a range of poetry styles, learning poems off by heart and taking part in workshops with local poet John Rice. We also have World Book Day to enjoy on 7th March.</p>
<p>Mathematics</p> 	<p>For the year 2 pupils, our maths lessons will continue to focus on developing confidence using a range of different strategies to support calculations. We will be learning 2x, 5x and 10x times tables with division facts and learning how to apply them when working out word problems. We will be introducing the children to fractions, and practising finding $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{2}{4}$, and $\frac{3}{4}$ of shapes, sets of objects and numbers.</p> <p>The year 1 pupils will be learning to count in 2s and will link this to doubling facts and even numbers. They will learn how to read arrays and will start to learn their 2x table using repeated addition. The children will then move onto division by sharing.</p>
<p>Science</p> 	<p>This half term, we will continue to use our topic about the Arctic/Antarctic as a basis for our science lessons. The children will be carrying out some experiments using ice, and thinking about freezing/melting points and exploring what effect salt has on ice.</p>

<p>Music</p> 	<p>This half term, the children will be learning about the different instruments in the orchestra by listening to the story of "Peter and the Wolf" by Sergei Prokofiev. The children will be thinking about whether these instruments belong in the brass, woodwind, percussion or string sections of the orchestra, and how they represent each character in the story. They will also be finding a beat to different pieces of music and learning how to play different rhythms.</p>
<p>Art and Design Technology</p>	<p>In Design and Technology, the children will be using the "Peter and the Wolf" music as a starting point to design and develop their own musical instruments. Our artwork will continue to link to our topics and the children will be drawing the characters from Peter and the Wolf and making instruments from recycled products. The children will also be creating igloos from salt dough!</p>
<p>PE</p> 	<p>The children have one indoor and one outdoor P.E. session a week. The indoor session will focus on developing fitness to music, and the children will develop their stamina and co-ordination by taking part in dance/aerobic sessions. The outdoor session will focus on developing skills used for netball, football and hockey. Please ensure that your child has a tracksuit (or similar warm clothing) and outdoor trainers for these sessions.</p>
<p>RE</p> 	<p>This half term, the Religious Education focus will be "Easter". The children will be encouraged to think about how the church celebrates Easter, and explore the symbolism of the Easter Egg representing new life and change. We also have a visit planned to Sandylands Church so that the children can compare different churches within the locality.</p>
<p>School Values</p> 	<p>Our School Value this half term is "Respect" and pupils will be thinking about how we can respect ourselves, others and our environment.</p> <p>The children will start to unpick the range of feelings they might experience in different situations. They will be encouraged to express their opinions and value each other's ideas.</p>
<p>Citizenship and Global Awareness</p> 	<p>We will have Comic Relief/Red Nose Day on 15th March to raise money to improve people's lives in the UK and worldwide.</p>
<p>Geography and History</p> 	<p>We will continue to learn about the Arctic and Antarctic and are looking forward to a special visit by local explorer Leo Houlding, who has recently returned from an Antarctic expedition. The children will also be learning the difference between human and physical features and will be using maps to locate them. We will also be discovering about how Inuits live and will be comparing their lifestyle to how people live in the Arctic today.</p>
<p>Homework Ideas</p> 	<p>Here are some ideas to support your child at home in addition to the weekly spellings and Friday Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily reading (school books or home books are fine) • Cooking (reading instructions, weighing and measuring) • Shopping (using coins and getting change) • Telling the time • Practising the 2x, 5x, and 10x tables and related division facts • Keeping a diary/journal

