

Welcome Back

Welcome back to everyone, we hope you had a wonderful break. Thank you to you all for your generosity in December; the presents, party nibbles and charitable contributions were amazing and having seen what the school as a whole collected during the reverse advent we were overwhelmed by what one small school could achieve. Thank you!

Welcome as well to our new class mate, Dexter. We hope he settles quickly and happily with us.

Reading Challenge

Congratulations everyone; Penguin Class won the Extreme Reading Challenge which means that we get to choose a new book for our class library and also to boast gracefully about our success... We cannot wait to hear how the children got on with the Reading Star Challenge.

We would also like to express our appreciation the way many of you use the reading records as a quick way of sharing information or queries about learning, both at home and at school.

Online Learning

The children were initially very excited to have access to TimesTables Rockstars and SpellingShed at home. In school there is some competition between the classes as to who is

Penguin Class Newsletter

January 2019

Do you know what our Penguin Class Jigsaw friend is called?

Each class in school has a Jigsaw character to support discussions during PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education).

School Website

You may have noticed that the school website was down and then changed. Later this term class teachers should have access to the website again, so I will use it to put up class information, including a copy of the most recent class newsletter and some upcoming diary dates.

Topic

We are doing a polar topic this half term, linking to our class name and looking at some of the distinctive geography and history of the Arctic and Antarctic regions, specifically Scott's exploration of the Antarctic.

Home learning

Your continued support with the children in learning their weekly and year 2 spellings as well as building fluency with number bonds to 10, 20 and 100 and practising times tables is appreciated.

This half term we are setting the children a home learning challenge to complete, as the older classes in school do. We want the children to be interested in topics and excited to share them with you. Home learning projects provide an opportunity to explore an aspect or idea that we do not cover in class. Please do not worry about creating perfect models or presentations; our aim is for the children to feel a sense of achievement and we will be impressed by effort and enthusiasm.

Home learning Projects will be due in on **Tuesday 12th February**. Your child could:

- * Make an advertisement that persuades someone to holiday in the Arctic/Antarctic.
- * Find out about people who live in the Arctic/Antarctic and what their life is like.
- * Make a model of a vehicle you could use to travel across the Arctic/Antarctic.
- * Design the perfect clothes for an Arctic/Antarctic explorer (you could show these with collage, poster, etc).
- * The Arctic is an endangered ecosystem. Find out why, and what we can do to protect it.

(Speak to us if you have an alternate project in mind).

using it the most, and Penguin Class had a strong lead but now Tarantula Class are beating us! These programmes are regularly set to allow children to practice the most relevant spellings or to encourage them to try new tables, and we appreciate your support in encouraging children to use another way to practice their learning at home.

Our timestables focus: 2, 4, 8, 5, 10. We are beginning to explore division and relating it to multiplication.

This half term we will have forest school again, so please ensure your child has the equipment they need. It is worth leaving it in school as the cold, wet weather means that children must have coats and if they wish to play on the field they also need wellies.

In PE we will be doing gymnastics and some of our class will be invited to take part in a competition with other primary schools.

KIRF sheet attached.



Our Our poem:

Winter, by Barbara Vance.

When the geese are flying south
And the sky is grey, my dears,
Close your eyes and lift your nose;
Listen with your careful ears.

Feel the winter coming on;
Hear it in the crackling trees;
Note the crisping, quivering wind
Sharply snapping at their leaves.

Feel it on the windowpanes-
Chilly glass on fingertips-
Mark the biting of the air,
Heated breath on numbing lips.

See it in the early eves,
In the glowing sunset where
Shadows of the naked trees
Rattle in the biting air.

Watch the nuthatch and the wren;
They know it is time once more
To abandon careful nests,
As they've done each year before.

Let the frost rest on your face;
Sense a shiver on your skin.
See how pretty nature is
When she ushers winter in.

Our journey story:

The Rainbow Bear

(abridged Michael Morpugo)

Once upon a time there was a snow bear, a sea bear, a white bear. He dug a deep, dark den and dreamt of hopping hares, frisking foxes and slow seals. Suddenly, a rainbow appeared and snow bear wished he could catch it. He galloped through the snow for many days until he smelt a man. The starving bear stalked him silently. The man said "do not eat me because I am a wise shaman. Let the rainbow come to you and your wish will come true".

The snow bear wandered the wilderness and hunted the rainbow but could not catch it. Snow bear waited on the mountain. At last the rainbow came and snow bear was a rainbow bear, a happy bear.

Rainbow bear was hungry so he tried to hunt but foxes ran because of his bright fur. Rainbow bear went to the shaman. The shaman said "there is danger in beauty." As he spoke, a ship of men came with dogs and guns to take the bear away. Bear's kingdom was now a cage and he wished he was a snow bear again.

Out of nowhere, a beautiful rainbow suddenly appeared and bear wished he was himself and free.

Bear stretched and woke in spring. It was time to dig himself out and hunt. It felt good to be alive and wild.

Our non-fiction text type:

