

Reception Newsletter!

Friday 1st March 2019

Week 7

It has been so lovely to welcome all the children back after half term. We have really enjoyed playing outside in the sunshine and we are all very hopeful that spring is on its way!

On Monday we started to look at some of the spring flowers appearing around school including snowdrops, daffodils and crocus. We then enjoyed completing some beautiful observational paintings showing all the spring colours in the garden. We've also been digging, weeding and spreading manure in the vegetable plot ready for more planting.

This week we had lots of fun travelling all the way to Antarctica! **We learnt that...** The Antarctic covers the continent of Antarctica and some ice shelves and islands in the Southern Ocean. Most of the land is covered all the time by snow and ice. Antarctica is the coldest continent on earth! The world's coldest temperature ever recorded was in the Antarctic. It reached -89.2°C in 1983!

Ask us...what animals live in Antarctica? Do any plants grow there? Do people live there?

This week we investigated the question; how do polar animals stay warm in the icy water? **Ask us...does fur keep polar animals warm? What happened when you put your hand in the icy water? Did the gloves keep you warm? What is blubber? What did we use to keep our hands warm?**

We have decided that we would like to find out more about penguins...including how to walk like a penguin! We have enjoyed finding out about emperor penguins and used our knowledge to make some amazing shape and collage pictures. **Ask us all about it!**

We were so surprised (and excited!) to find a baby penguin in our classroom on Wednesday afternoon! The penguin was lost, just like the penguin in the story 'Lost and Found' by Oliver Jeffers. We named the penguin 'Mr Penguin' and have really enjoyed looking after him. We decided we wanted to help Mr Penguin get back to Antarctica so we made some special 'Found' posters and put them up around school in the hopes his penguin mummy and daddy might see them when they are looking for him. We also discovered some penguin eggs hidden in the forest school garden! We worked together in teams to build nests and dens surrounding the eggs to keep them safe. We also made posters and signs to make sure no one stood on them! **Ask us all about it!**

We had our first cricket session on Tuesday afternoon (this will continue weekly until the Easter holidays.) **Ask us all about cricket!** In our P.E session with Mr Thompson we had our first football sessions. We learnt how to dribble the ball with both feet taking 'small touches.' We also learnt how to do a 'drag back' turn. **Ask us to show you at home!**

Wow Wednesday Dates

Wow Wednesdays provide an opportunity to look through your child's Learning Journey. **They are held between 8.30-8.50 am on the following dates:**

Wednesday 6th March

Wednesday 20th March

Wednesday 3rd April

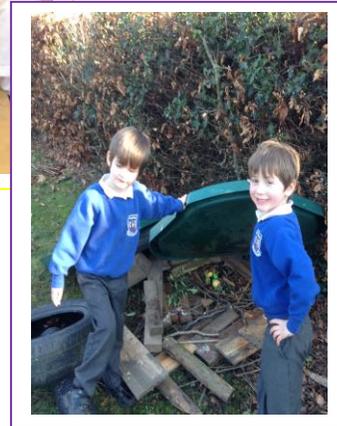
Phonics /Reading at home

This week we have learnt the following Phase 3 diagraphs; **ur ow oi**. We have been working hard to recognise these sounds within words and use our knowledge to blend independently. We have also been enjoying play games with real and nonsense words, including buried treasure (or the pirate game.) **Ask us all about it.**

We are very good at recognising our Phase graphemes in isolation and need to keep practicing identifying them within words in order to blend independently. When you are completing your reading challenges at home this week see how many of our new sounds you can find.

Please note a letter about reading at home, including changes to our reading days, was sent home earlier this week.

Our week in pictures...



We hope you have a wonderful weekend and look forward to welcoming you back into school on Monday.

Yours Faithfully,

Ms Shepherd and the Reception Team.