

Panda Class

November 2019

Welcome back to the final term of 2019! We are now a few weeks in and the children are fully immersed in their learning about the Arctic and in particular polar bears. It has been fantastic to see the children's enthusiasm about their learning and to see all the work they have been doing at home.

Next week we will begin working on the Nativity play so get ready to hear all the new songs!



Our learning this term will be mainly about: The Arctic and Christmas

Literacy—Writing:

We will continue to teach the majority of our literacy through the class projects of the Arctic and Christmas.

We will be looking at a range of fiction and non-fiction texts linked to our project and we will be using this as starting point for our writing. Over the next term in our writing we will be concentrating on:

- Reading and discussing stories. We will be reading and retelling stories about the Arctic.
- Recount writing. We will be talking and writing about our visit to the Gulbenkian Theatre.
- Sequencing. We will be sequencing the story of Goldilocks.
- Writing stories. We will be looking at Goldilocks and the Three Bears. We will use actions and pictures to help us learn the text before we write and then change the story.
- Information texts. We will collect information and make fact cards about Arctic animals.

WATER BOTTLES

Please make sure your child has a *named* water bottle in school every day.

The children often have their bottles with them as they work so please could the bottle have a sports lid to avoid spillages! Remember, water only, no squash please.

Integrated Learning:

This term, we will begin by learning about the Arctic. Our focus will be geography and science but our topic learning will include lots of different subjects.

Here are some of the things that we will be learning and doing:

- Make igloos
- Find out about animal habitats
- Make maps of a journey to the North Pole
- Paint snowy pictures
- Make models of polar bears
- Learn about polar bears

If you have any books that might support this topic please send them in. We will be sending home homework ideas with this newsletter.



RE

In RE, we will be learning about special stories and special times. The focus will be Diwali and Christmas.

English—Reading:

In daily Sounds-Write sessions some children will be:

- Learning to segment and blend sounds in 5 and 6 sound words.
- Learning to read and spell multi-syllable words
- Many children will be working within the Extended Code. This is the part of Sounds Write which addresses the more complex spellings of different sounds.

If your child is bringing home spellings, please can you help them to learn how to spell the words before the following Friday when they are tested.

PE

As it gets colder, please can you make sure your child has dark coloured tracksuit bottoms and sweatshirts for PE. Also, a spare of socks are useful for girls

Buster's Book Club

The children have already brought home their Buster book mark. It's stapled into the front of their reading record book. It would be great if you could continue to read with your child at least 3 times a week but on a Wednesday evening we'd like you to record how many minutes they read for. We will collect this information on a Thursday morning and see which class has the most children reading each week. The winning class will receive a certificate and at the end of each term the class with the most certificates will receive chocolate!



Numeracy

This term, in Mental Maths we will be working on:

- Number recognition
- Quick recall of number facts, such as bonds to 10 and 20
- Counting in 1s, 2s, 5s and 10s
- Mental addition and subtraction.
- Ordering numbers.

During Numeracy lessons we will be learning :

- About place value
- Fractions of shapes
- To add and subtract
- About 2D and 3D shapes

Science:

This term in Science we will be looking at living things and their habitats

We will be learning:

- To name plants and animals in their habitats
- How animals and plants are suited to their habitats
- Compare living and non living things
- Seasonal changes



Diary dates:

- Friday 15th November- Children in Need
- Tuesday 19th November- Reading Challenge Final
- Friday 29th November- Christmas Fair 3.15pm-5.30pm
- Monday 2nd December- Learning and Progress Meetings 2.30pm-6.30pm
- Wednesday 11th December- Class trip to the Gulbenkian (The Snow Dragon)
- Friday 13th December- The Nativity 1.30pm
- Tuesday 17th December- Christmas Dinner and Christmas Parties
- Wednesday 18th December- Final Achievement Assembly 9am
- Wednesday 18th December- Last day of term