



Spring 1 Newsletter

# Welcome to 2025!

We hope you have had a wonderful winter break and are ready for an action packed Spring 1!



Our learning will be centred around this term.

## History and Geography

In Geography, we will be learning about Explorers and Adventurers. We will research three famous explorers, Earnest Shackleton, Christopher Columbus and Mathew Henson, and learn the expeditions they took, hardships they faced and the reasons why their journeys were both important. This unit focuses on the exploration of Antarctica. The children will be thinking about the reasons why explorers were necessary and debating the ethics of some of these explorers.

## Reading

This half term we will be reading 'Race to the frozen north' by Catherine Johnson as our class reader. We will practise our summarising skills by identifying the main events from what we have read and completing summaries in our reading logs. It is a book all about the explorer Matthew Henson so we will be linking it to our geography topic.

Our reading lessons will focus on a range of reading skills including:

- Finding and retrieving information from the text
- Understanding new vocabulary in context and considering why an author uses these words

- Using clues from the text to work out the feelings of characters
- Making predictions about what will happen next

To support your child at home, please read with them every day. Children can also access Reading Plus at home using the link below:

<https://student.readingplus.com/seereader/api/sec/>

## Writing

Our writing units this half term will be based around our topic of Explorers and Adventurers and Antarctica. The children will use the text 'Sophie Scott goes South' to write a diary entry from the perspective of Sophie using emotion comma sentences.

They will then write a non-chronological report about Antarctica, using facts, subheadings, paragraphs and diagrams. We will learn the features of a good non-chronological report.

Please support your child's spelling at home by encouraging them to learn their weekly spellings and complete spelling activities on Spellzone using the link below:

<https://www.spellzone.com/>

Their username and password can be found on the inside cover of their homework book.

## Maths

In Maths this half term, we will be covering:

**Further multiplication and division** - We will be learning how to multiply and divide 2-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers using a range of strategies.

**Measurement and length** - The children will look at length in metres and centimetres before moving on to kilometres. Pupils will learn to measure different items using centimetres, metres and kilometres. They will also be able to convert different units of measurement as well as compare different lengths.

**Mass** - The children will be measuring mass using scales. Pupils look at different units to measure mass, specifically grams and kilograms

**Volume** - The children will learn about volume and capacity. Pupils will learn to measure volume using millilitres and litres

[Factors, multiples and primes - KS2 Maths - BBC Bitesize](#)

## Dates for your Diary

Monday 6th January INSET day for Nursery, Reception and Years 1 -6

Monday 6th January Preschool opens

Tuesday 7th January Schools resumes for Early Years and Years 1 -6

Thursday 9th January Family Drop In, 3-5pm, meet the SEND Team

Thursday 16th January Family Drop In, 3-5pm, meet the SEND Team

Friday 31st January Family Sharing Year 3

TBC Canals and Rivers Trust Workshop

Friday 14th February FROG's Annual Valentines Ball

## Campaign

Our class campaign this term is linked to 'Keep Safe.' We will be learning about water safety. We will take a guided walking tour of the canal to learn about the history of it and the importance of keeping safe.

## Science

Our Science topic this half term will be 'Rocks and fossils.' We will observe and identify different rocks based on their properties. We will conduct a mineral investigation, to find out what minerals each type of rock has more of.

We will develop our scientific skills by planning our investigation, selecting our equipment, recording our results and observations, drawing conclusions and evaluating the accuracy of our investigation and results.

## ICT

Our topic this half term is 'Programming.' We will develop our understanding of computer systems and how information is transferred between systems and devices. We will learn how to use scratch to code a sequence.

## PSHE

This half term our PSHE unit is 'Dreams and goals.' During this topic, the children will think about and discuss the year ahead, goals they can set for themselves and challenges they may face.

## RE

Our focus religion this half term is Christianity. Our key question is 'What can we learn from the Bible?' We will learn about Christian religious practices and beliefs.

## PE

PE lessons this half term will focus on Tag rugby

Class PE Day: **Monday**

Please ensure that your child comes to school wearing their PE kit on **Mondays**.

## Music

The children will be exploring Motown music in their music lessons and will be developing their ability to create and write music. Throughout the topic they will be exploring how to use musical vocabulary accurately e.g. tempo (speed), volume and rhythm.

## Spanish

In Spanish, our focus for this half term is 'Food.' The children will learn how to use language linked to their favourite food and drinks.

## Art and DT

This half term in DT, the children will link their art to our topic explorers. They will be making a mixed media ship in a bottle.

**Please come and speak with me if you have any questions or concerns and I look forward to working with you all.**

[Visit our website for dates, news and other information](#)

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