



Minnows Newsletter – Spring Term 2024

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the spring term. We hope that you have all enjoyed your Christmas break and we wish you all a very happy new year.

This term our Topic will be **Polar Explorers**. In **history**, the children will be learning about the race to get to the South Pole with a focus on Robert Scott. To further develop chronological skills, they will be making a timeline and sequencing key events in order. We will also be making links to our **art** topic which focuses on painting polar landscapes. After half term, our **geography** focus will be on weather patterns, and we will be comparing the UK with hot and cold areas of the world.

In **science** we are continuing our work on seasonal changes with a closer look at climate. The children will also be carrying out an experiment linked to the wind and recording their findings. Visits to Forest School on January 19th, February 9th, March 8th and March 22nd will allow them to see how the change in seasons has an effect on animal and plant life. Towards Easter we will begin a new topic about plants.

As mentioned, the children will be painting polar landscapes in **art**. After half term we will be looking at mechanisms in **DT** and the children will be experimenting with slides and levers.

This term, our work in **RE** will focus on Judaism and we will be learning all about Shabbat and making comparisons with other religious celebrations. After half term we will be thinking about the significance of the cross as we move towards Easter. In **PSHE**, the children will look at keeping themselves safe and knowing how to ask for help. They will also be thinking about the kinds of things that they can now be responsible for.

Our work in **computing** will include focus on finding information and the children will be introduced to animation.

PE will continue to be on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Children will need to come to school in PE kit on these days.

Homework:

Please continue to ensure that your child is reading at least four times a week at home (for about 15 minutes) and log this in their reading record. We are really starting to see the positive impact of home reading in the children's reading, spelling and written work. The majority of them are gaining an extra 10 minutes play time for this. Please include any relevant comments if necessary and we will respond where appropriate. **The children will also be bringing home an updated list of the high frequency words that they cannot yet spell.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please see either of us on the playground before or after school. Alternatively, please contact the office if you would like to arrange a meeting.

Kindest Regards,

Ms Elliott
(Monday/Tuesday am)

Miss Weetch
(Tuesday pm, Wednesday/Thursday/Friday)

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<i>Topic</i>	<i>Polar Explorers</i>		
English	<u>Writing</u> Diamante poetry Myths from another culture Recount writing Arctic stories	<u>Reading</u> Whole class reading Buddy reading Individual reading	<u>Phonics</u> Daily phonics and reading/spelling of high frequency words
Maths	Place value within 20 Addition and Subtraction within 20 Place value within 50 Length and Height Mass and Volume		
Science	Seasonal Changes Plants		
History	The Race to the Pole – Robert Scott		
Geography	Comparing weather patterns		
RE	Why and how do Jewish people celebrate Shabbat? What does the cross mean to Christians?		
Computing	Data and Information Animation		
Art	Painting Polar Landscapes		
DT	Mechanisms		
PSHE	Keeping Safe Rights and Responsibilities		
PE	Fitness Target Games		
Music	Introducing Tempo and Dynamics Combining Pulse, Rhythm and Pitch		