

Communication and Language:

Communication and language activities will continue to underpin everything we do in Penguin class. Reading stories, singing songs and rhymes, playing with language and lots of adult modelling happen all of the time.

Our penguin learning focus will introduce us to lots more new vocabulary as we study this amazing animal and their habitat.

Literacy:

The children have been making super progress with their phonics and are continuing to work hard in their lessons under the careful guidance of Phoneme Fred.

We have now organised the children into two, brand new groups so that we are able to tailor our teaching to match their needs.

Each group works on reading their sounds speedily, either assisted or independent blending / reading activities including making words with magnetic letters or segmenting and writing CVC words.

Next week, we will begin to send home reading once more. For one group this will be the sound blending books and books with no words to develop story telling. For the second group it will be a photocopy of the Ditty Card that we have been reading during our lesson.

From Monday, please could you ensure that your child comes to school every day with their book bag, reading log and that you return any books we have sent home.

From next Friday, I will be checking reading diaries once a week again. I will be looking for at least four logs of reading at home every week. This could be a log of the reading book / ditty card that we have sent home, word building with letter sound cards, a phonics app on your tablet etc. If you're unsure about anything to do with reading and phonics (or indeed anything!) then, please do stop for a quick chat at pick up. I'm always happy to help.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

This term, we have introduced a weekly circle time which provides us with a dedicated session to talk about our feelings, consider the feelings of others, build respectful relationships and discuss how we can begin to regulate our own behaviour.

Another main focus this term is to begin to manage our own needs such as dressing/undressing, using the toilet independently and beginning to understand the importance of healthy food choices.



Mathematics:

Our daily maths lesson is now an established part of our routine. This half term we are continuing our work on counting, subitising and conservation of number as well as revisiting repeating patterns involving 2, 3, or 4 items including shapes, colours, numbers etc.

We will also be covering the following strands:

- ✓ Partitioning sets of ten objects to begin to learn our number bonds to 10.
- ✓ Doubling and halving
- ✓ Measuring lengths, heights, weights, time.
- ✓ Exploring 2D and 3D shapes.

R.E.

We are continuing to focus on 'Understanding Christianity' this term and will build on the work last term about why the word 'God' is so important to Christians. The children will be introduced to the fact that Christians believe that they are called by God to care for the world.

Physical Development:

High quality, continuous provision activities will continue to be in place in both the indoor and emerging outdoor environments for the development of the children's gross and fine motor skills.

We will continue have two whole class PE sessions each week on a Monday and Tuesday but this term we are focusing on Gymnastics and Dance.

Understanding the World:

What are penguins? Where do they live? Why are we called penguin class? These are the questions that are directing our learning this half term.

We will be using images, video clips, shared texts and other resources to bring both the natural and wider world into our classroom as we explore the contrasting environment of Antarctica and all things penguin. We will be thinking about the threats that penguins face, their declining numbers and provide plenty of opportunities to discuss how to care for our natural world.

Our Forest School sessions will continue to take place on a Thursday afternoon enabling us to explore the natural world and work on our teamwork.

Expressive Arts and Design:

Our adult directed activities in EAD this half term will include guided drawing of penguins, collaborative collage, 3D model making with a focus on using scissors and joining techniques. There will always be lots of opportunities for the children to explore their creativity and practice techniques that we have taught them in their self-initiated learning time.

Our music teaching and learning will be interspersed throughout the week as we continue to listen and respond to different styles of music; learn nursery rhymes and action songs; learn to play instruments within a song and share and perform our learning within class.