

## Polar Animals Newsletter: Spring 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are very excited to introduce our topic for this half term, The Great Fire of London. In KS1, our learning will be focused on the events of the Great Fire of London and the diary written by Samuel Pepys.

### **English**

We have begun the term by reading the diary of Samuel Pepys and exploring the features of a recount. We will spend time learning how to use the different features of a diary and will then use our imaginations to write our own diary entries for the Great Fire of London. Later in the term we will be writing stories inspired by the Great Fire of London.

### **Maths**

Currently children in Year 1 are learning about time. They are learning how to tell the time to the nearest hour and half hour. Later in the term they will be looking at place value of numbers and also looking at a unit of addition and subtraction where they will use a range of apparatus to support their learning.

Year 2 have started this term with money. So far they have been finding different combinations of money and will be moving on to finding total values and learning how to give the correct amount of change. Later in the term they will be learning to tell the time to 5 minute intervals.

Our Maths on the Boil focus this term is division. In Year 1 children will be learning how to double numbers to 10 and halve numbers to 20. In Year 2, children will be learning the division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 times tables.

### **Science**

We will be learning about materials this term, grouping materials using different criteria and carrying out an investigation on waterproof materials.

### **History**

The main focus of our topic lessons this term is learning about the history of the Great Fire of London. The children will learn about how the fire started, how long it lasted and the significant individuals involved in the Great Fire of London.

### **DT**

Children will be researching the different buildings that were around during the Great Fire of London. KS1 will then rebuild London in 1666. The fire brigade will be visiting us to help us recreate the Great Fire of London.

### **Geography**

After learning about the Great Fire of London, our focus will move to the geography of London today and will make comparisons between London and Oxford.



## **P.E.**

Year 1 – Wednesday and Thursday

Year 2 – Wednesday and Friday



Please ensure that pupils dress appropriately when the weather gets colder. PE kits must be named. Please ensure t-shirts are **plain** and either white or house colours (house t-shirts are £5 from the office). Children should bring in jogging trousers.



## **RE**

In RE this term, the children will be learning about celebrations in different religions and the reason for these celebrations. The celebrations that we will be focusing on are Christian Celebrations, Jewish Celebrations and how the Chinese celebrate their New Year.



## **Personal, Social and Health Education**



Our PSHE learning this term is going to be based on the story 'Can I Build Another Me?' The children will be thinking about their personal qualities and what makes them unique.



Spellings are sent home on a Friday and are due in the following Friday. Spellings are chosen in line with the spelling pattern being taught in phonics lessons. Please support your child with learning these, writing them into sentences when confident.



Please support your child's reading development at home by hearing them read for at least 10 minutes each day. Children will be given two reading books a week. These books will be a specific colour band to ensure that the text supports your child's reading ability. Children will also bring home one library book each week. Please record books that your child has read in their reading diary, making comments if you wish to.



For maths, children have 'On the Boil targets' that they will work towards throughout the term, these should be practised regularly at home. Every child has an individual login to RM Easimaths (<http://www.rmeasimaths.com>). If you do not have access to a computer, please discuss further options with your child's teacher.



## **Reading Mornings**



Our KS1 reading mornings will begin again on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January. Now that the year is in full swing these will be on Thursdays only each week.



## **Important Dates**



Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February – Fractions Workshop in school



Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February – Fire Brigade visit in school

