



## Polar Animals Newsletter: Autumn 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

This half-term we are very excited that our whole school are celebrating Roald Dahl's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. In Key Stage 1 we are using the story of The Enormous Crocodile to inspire our learning.

### English

We will begin the term reading the story of The Enormous Crocodile, exploring the different characters such as Humpy Rumpy and Trunky. Once we are familiar with the story we will have the opportunity to retell, adapt and write a new crocodile trick. What would you do with a naughty crocodile? Our literacy will change direction to explore non-fiction animal texts, where the children will present information about crocodiles in different ways. We will also be performing and rehearsing crocodile poetry.

Weekly spellings will be sent home, in line with the spelling pattern being taught in phonics lessons. Please support your child with learning these, writing them into sentences when confident.

From 20<sup>th</sup> September, our 'KS1 Reading Mornings' will return. On **Tuesday** and **Thursday** mornings parents and guardians are invited into our classes to share books from 8:45 – 8:55am. Please support your child's reading development by hearing them to 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. Children will continue to be taught reading skills during daily sessions.

We will be holding a parent workshop on Reading and Phonics in KS1 on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 3:30pm. More information about the workshop will be sent out before the event.

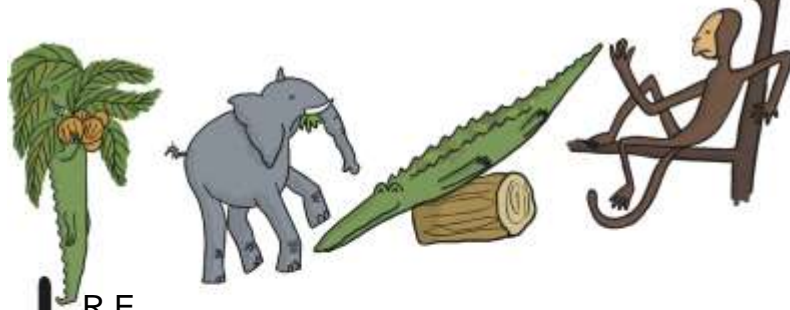
### Maths

In Maths lessons, we will start the term by focussing on place value by reading, writing, ordering and comparing whole numbers. We will follow this with a unit of work on addition and subtraction. Our mental maths focus across the school is number bonds. See the On The Boil booklet outlining our expectations for each year group and giving ideas for fun activities to try at home. Please support us by practising number bonds to 10, 20 and 50 until your child has an instant, quick mental recall. Each week we will give challenges for children to work towards.

### Science and DT

Our Science topic this term will focus on the materials and forces being used in a playground. We will use this knowledge to create our own mini- playgrounds!





## R.E.

This term we will be studying Judaism, learning about the celebrations of Jewish New Year (3<sup>rd</sup> October) and Yom Kippur (11<sup>th</sup> November).

## Geography

We will be looking at the locations of the worldwide jungles, using maps and atlases to name the continents. Together we will make comparisons with our own country, including weather and climate. We will also make our own maps.

## P.E.

This term Mr Nutt has planned a variety of agility and ball skill activities to challenge individual and team skills.

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. Children should bring in jogging trousers.

## Personal, Social and Health Education

Our unit is New Beginnings discussing rules, rights and responsibilities. This theme allows children to understand and manage the changes that have occurred in the new school year, new classes, new teachers, new friends and new topics.

## Art

Linking in with our topic, we will be creating collages of characters and improving our observation skills.

## Homework

Each week children will have an A4 homework sheet outlining the expectations for the week in their red homework folder. Spellings should be practised on the sheet and can be consolidated through other activities to ensure that your child knows how to spell them individually and within sentences. Please ensure you sign the homework sheet daily when your child has completed their spelling practice. Also in the homework folder will be a Reading Diary, where books read must be written with a date. Comments can also be written. We will expect children to read for at least 10 minutes each day.

For maths, children have 'On the Boil targets' that they will work towards. Look at the booklet for ideas that can be adapted for your child's target. 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.

Thank you for all your continuing support,

Miss Gant, Miss Blake, Mrs Blackmore, Mr Alazia and Mrs Kazantzidou

