

Polar Animals Newsletter: Autumn 2015

Dear Parents and Carers,

This half-term we are very excited that our whole school topic is The Jungle Book.

English

We will begin the term reading the story of the Jungle Book, exploring the different characteristics of the main characters, including Mowgli, Baloo and Shere Khan. Children will have the opportunity to retell, adapt or create their own story based on the original. Our literacy will change direction to explore non-fiction animal texts, including brochures and leaflets. 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. Children will continue to be taught reading skills during daily sessions.

From October 1st, 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's reading books will be changed each week and they will also have a library book to bring home.

Maths

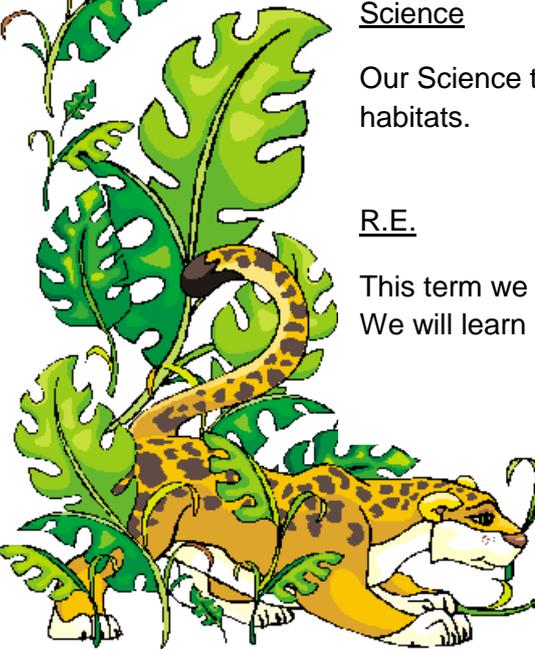
In Maths lessons, we will start the term by focussing on place value by reading, writing, ordering and comparing whole numbers. We will follow this with a unit of work on addition and subtraction. Our mental Maths focus across the school is number bonds. See the attached poster outlining our expectations for each year group. Please support us by practising number bonds to 10, 20 and 100 until your child has a quick mental recall.

Science

Our Science topic this term we will focus on animals, plants and habitats.

R.E.

This term we will be studying Hinduism including the rituals and Gods. We will learn about the festival of Diwali.





Geography

We will be looking at the locations of the worldwide jungles, using maps and atlases. Together we will make comparisons with our own country. These will include habitats, weather and climate.

P.E.

This term we are lucky to be working with Mr Peake, who is developing our gymnastic skills. Alongside this, Mr Nutt has planned a variety of agility skills 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.

Art and DT

Linking in with our topic, we will be creating collages using the artist Rousseau as an inspiration. To link in with our literacy character studies children will be making papier-mâché masks.

Homework

Each week children will be given a list of spellings that follow the patterns they are focussing on in class. They will be expected to read for at least 10 minutes each day. For maths, children have been given their individual login to RM Easimaths (<http://www.rmeasimaths.com>) and TT Rockstars (<http://www.ttrockstars.com>). If you do not have access to a computer, please discuss further options with your child's teacher.

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.

End of Term Celebration

Throughout our 'Jungle Book' topic children will be working towards a final end of term gallery of characters. We would like to invite parents and guardians into school on Friday 23rd 9:00-9:30.

