

19th December 2018

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been another busy and packed term with the children doing lots of incredible learning and of course we have had our school nativities! Well done to all our stars of the show who worked so hard to put on an incredible performance for us all to enjoy.

We were lucky to have West End Productions to provide us with a pantomime this year which got us all in to the Christmas spirit.

It was great to see so many of you in attendance at our parent workshops we held, especially the self-esteem and anxiety workshop.

We look forward to seeing you again at our new parent workshops that we will hold in the spring term.

Thank you again for all your support towards our school it really means a lot.

Finally I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Best wishes,

Miss Kilgarriff



19th December 2018



Tiny Turtle News



This term the Turtles have been learning about colour and celebrations, we have looked at this through the books Pete the cat's white shoes by Eric Litwin and The day the crayons came home by Drew Daywalt.

We looked at colour and how colour can be made, we did this by painting our hands with poster paint and putting our hands together with a friend and seeing what colours we made. The Turtles have also looked at the festivals that different religions celebrate at this time of year. The children learnt about Rama and Sita and the story of Diwali, we looked at why candles are used to celebrate Hanukah, and we have been busy practising our Christmas Story to show all our friends and family.

In Tiny Turtles we have introduced a Maths Mastery approach to teaching Maths in nursery where we are using Number blocks as a purposeful start to a concept in Maths, the children are really excited by the number activities and are enjoying the taught sessions. Upon our trip to Egypt, we made pyramids using all different types of building blocks, some of the creations the children made were amazing.

In PE we have been learning about the skills needed for travel and movement. We learnt to hop, skip, jump, and run whilst avoiding others and also to follow the rules of the games we play.

Our phonics sessions, have been developing out awareness of the sounds in the environment. We have been concentrating on developing listening skills, and identification skills, to enable us to be able to transfer these skills when thinking about words and the sounds needed to make words.

When we come back in the New Year, our context will be "Weather", we have some fun and exciting ideas planned. We also hope to be developing the children's technology skills.

We hope you have a wonderful and relaxing time off, and we look forward to seeing you all again in January.



Mrs Packham Miss Vine and Terrence



19th December 2018



Penguin News



Receptions Context: Explorers We Become

Congratulations Penguins on all your hard work and effort over the past term.! A big thank you to all mums and dads for providing nativity costumes and support reading and completing homework. I hope everyone has a restful and happy winter break.

Mathematics: We enjoyed lots of hands on real life mathematical experiences this term looking at weight and measure. The children really engaged with this and have continued developing their knowledge and vocabulary at independent activities. We looked at numbers 1-10 and are working on securing our number bond knowledge and estimation skills.

Literacy: "Follow that String" An exciting start to our context when we found a mysterious parcel wrapped in string. The children enjoyed making their own adventure ending to this story.

Diwali, festival of light: The children immersed themselves in the Hindu culture, enjoying games and traditional Hindu outfits as well as learning some brilliant new vocabulary in the story of Rama and Sita.

"Cave Baby" We enjoyed this tale of a colourful cave painting baby and created our own paints from natural materials. We looked at making a story map and used non-fiction text to gain more information about the Stone Age.

"The Emperors Egg" We have finished the term with a snowy adventure all about Emperors Penguins and have enjoyed finding out more facts about these animals and Antarctica.

Phonics: a,m,l,s,t,n,o,p,h,b,c,g,d,e,v,f,u,r,k,j,w,z,ff,x,y,ll,zz,ss.

We are learning that some sounds are two symbols one sound.

Enjoy the Christmas break and we look forward to seeing you back in January!



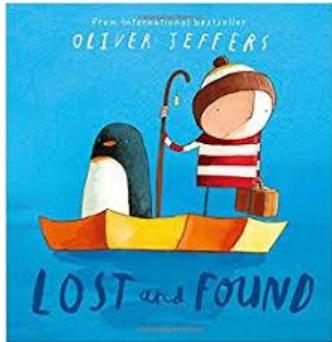
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Dolphin News

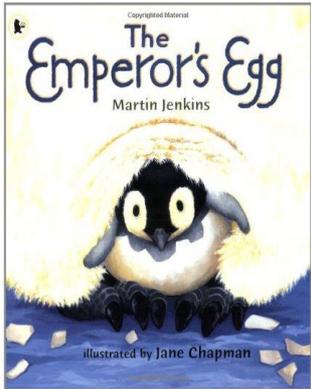
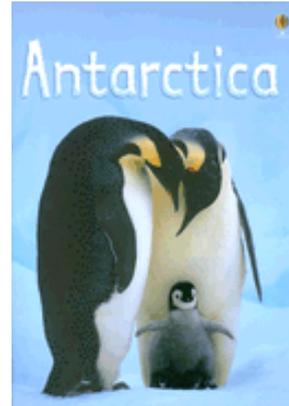


The Year 1 context this half term has been 'Icely Adventures'. We have absolutely loved this context which has involved looking at cold places such as Antarctica.



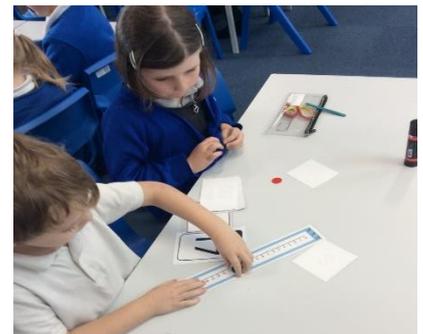
English

This half term we have been reading 'Lost and Found', 'Antarctica' and 'The Emperor's Egg'. We have enjoyed looking at a mixture of fiction and non-fiction books that have helped us really explore Antarctica. We used our imagination and the facts we had learnt to help us to write a letter as if we were in Antarctica. We have been focussing on using finger spaces, capital letters and full stops correctly.



Maths

This half term we have been exploring numbers to 20. Just like in the first term, we have been using lots of resources to help us with our maths and we have been using full sentences to explain our reasoning when answering questions. We have been looking at addition, subtraction, doubling, halving and partitioning.



Context Learning

We have been using our geography and science lessons to explore the different continents, types of weather and climate. We have even been making our own weather reports. For D&T we designed, made and evaluated a boat just in case we had to return a penguin to the South Pole (like the little boy in Lost and Found). In art we have been mixing primary colours to make secondary colours.

Next term our context will be 'Towers and Turrets'. Our books will be 'The Paper Bag Princess', 'George and the Dragon' and 'Castles'. In Maths we will explore telling o'clock and half past times, calculation strategies within 20 and recognising the place value of numbers to 50.

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Jellyfish and Starfish News

Year 2 have had a fun packed term of learning! Our context has been Home and we have enjoyed exploring this together. This has been a great context for us, especially as our key texts have been so engaging. After such a packed term it is hard to fit it into one newsletter but let's try.

In writing we began with *The Tunnel* by Anthony Browne we were learnt about the key structures of a narrative. We used this to help inspire our own tunnel stories. Some of us travelled to haunted woods, others to under the sea and even some who went back to school! A highlight for us this term was our visit to the woods where we were able to investigate a local habitat first hand. The children completed a treasure hunt of different seasonal plants and they used their observational skills to draw close up sketches. The children used this information to help them write non-fiction reports inspired by our second text *Above and Below*. The children were focusing on creating a non-fiction layout and writing factual sentences. Our final text this term has been *Ice Palaces* by Robert Swindell. As we read it, we were transported to a cold and icy setting. After unpicking Swindell's writing we used some of his techniques in our own writing. We focused upon using our senses to describe our chilly settings.



In our reading lessons we have continued to use our decodable texts to develop our phonic and comprehending skills. Linked to our key texts we have also read several fairy tales and discussed what they have in common.

We have covered a number of different units in maths this term. We began with measure where we learnt how to use a ruler to measure objects in cm and m and then we moved on to comparing measurements. After this we progressed to learning how to interpret block and pictorial diagrams. Alongside recording data through these we also used tallies.



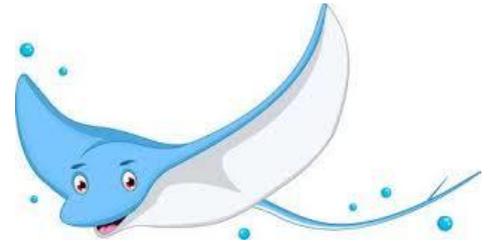
Autumn term has ended with us learning how to multiply and divide different numbers. We have also been improving our ability to skip count in 2s, 5s and 10s.



Within our wider curriculum lessons, our learning has been enriched by our context of Home. In science, we have learnt how animals are adapted to suit different habitats. We can now explain what a habitat and a micro habitat is. Through investigations we learnt about habitats local to our school. In our history lessons we have been learning historical events relating to Newhaven and Brighton. We found out why our lifeboat station is so important and important historical events in the Brighton Pavilion.

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Stingray News



Wow! What an amazing second half to the term Year 3 have had! Our context – Stones n Bones – has opened up a range of learning opportunities for us to explore, develop our knowledge and enjoy!

In writing we have looked at a variety of texts with a focus on the Stone Age. We began with Stone Age Boy. It tells the story of a boy who travelled back to the Stone Age and met a girl and her family. The writer used different techniques to create suspense – the power of three, similes, short sentences and ellipsis. We then had a go at mimicking the writer's style by writing a story introducing the girl from the Stone Age to our life now. We moved on to reading Ug – a graphic novel which we found ever so interesting and funny! Through this text we explored direct and non-direct speech and the effect it has on the reader. We In math our focus has been on addition and subtraction this term. We learnt how to use the column method to calculate two 3-digit numbers. We also encountered addition and subtraction in a range of real-life contexts. We developed our understanding of the two operations by focusing on part-whole relationships and interpreting bar models.

In our wider curriculum subjects our context was Stone 'n' Bones – a history based context. We developed a thorough chronologically secure knowledge and understanding of the time period from the stone age to the iron age. We learnt about how the stone age people lived, what they used to hunt and what they used to eat. The children found this fascinating and really enjoyed learning about a different period of time.

In music with Mrs Farey we have been continuing to learn the recorder! Mrs Farey has said how brilliant we are. It has been very difficult at times but we have persevered and worked extremely hard as a team!

Our context next term is 'Let there be light' – a science-based context. We will start our journey by reading The Firework Maker's Daughter by Phillip Pullman.

