

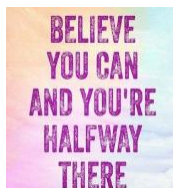


Reception Newsletter

Spring Term 1



All Different – All Equal



Reception - Oak



Miss Jukes & Mrs Khan

Our topic this half term is:

Chinese New Year



Polar Places

Personal, Social and Emotional Development
During Online Safety Week and Children's Mental Health Week, the children will be learning about how to stay safe online and how to express emotions. We will encourage the children to help their friends in the classroom, e.g. when hurt or helping them with an activity or particular skill.



Communication and Language

During ice experiments, we will be supporting the children to use speech to organise and explain their thoughts and predictions. We will be learning lots of new vocabulary related to our topics (Chinese New Year and Polar Places), which we will challenge children to use when explaining and during play.

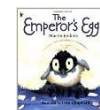


Physical Development

Exploring how polar animals move will be our inspiration, as we try to recreate these movements in PE and outdoors. During expressive arts activities, we will be modelling how to hold a paintbrush correctly and apply horizontal strokes to create a colour gradient. We will also be using tools to roll and fold when making dumplings for Chinese New Year.

English

This half term, we will be reading non-fiction information about Chinese New Year and 'The Emperor's Egg' (a text about a penguin life cycle). We will also be reading the story 'Lost and Found'. Throughout, we will use our phonics knowledge (including our new phase 3 digraphs, trigraphs and tricky words) to write and read with purpose, e.g. letters, lists and invitations.



Understanding the World

As polar explorers, we will be comparing polar places with our own environment. We are going to learn lots of new information about polar animals, especially penguins! We will also be conducting our own science investigations with ice, as well as learning about the community and how they live.



RE

We will be learning all about Chinese New Year and how this is celebrated. We will be role playing parades, eating, preparing to celebrate, learning Chinese dragon dances.



Maths

This half term, the numbers we will explore are 4, 5 and 6. We will look at what these numbers look like, subitise them, learn their number bonds off by heart and then apply our knowledge of these bonds to solve subtraction problems. Following this, we will explore 3D shapes. This will involve looking closely at which 2D shapes we can see within 3D shapes. Using this knowledge, we will manipulate these to make new shapes and create pictures.

Reading & Homework

Please continue to add wow moments to Class Dojo. We share this on our big screen with the children and they are just so proud when they get to share their home learning experiences with their friends. Homework activities can be completed once a week and also uploaded on to Class Dojo or brought into school to display. These are simply opportunities for you to talk to your child about their learning at school, support your children's knowledge of our current topic at home and support skills we are focusing on this half term. Please encourage your child to read their reading book daily (following planning sessions that are detailed inside the front cover of reading books if possible) and record in your child's reading record each time you read. These help them to decode, develop fluency, understand, discuss and love reading!



Expressive Arts & Design

As children have so far struggled to remember which colours mix to make new ones, we will continue to experiment with this while creating icy pictures. We will also encourage the children to experiment with form and function and to create for a purpose, e.g. animal masks for Chinese New Year or Chinese instruments.



Phonics

Below are the phonemes and tricky words we will be learning this half term.
ai, ee, igh, oa, oo, oo, ar, or, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, er, longer words

was you, they, my by, all, sure, pure, are

Key information & Key Dates

PE Day – Wednesday

Faith Open Morning – Parents invited – 20.01.26

Reception The Deep Trip – 05.02.26

No jewellery should be worn in school. If your child has their ears pierced, please make sure they are removed or taped up on PE days.

Please bring a clear named water bottle to school every day.