



# Badger Class News

## Spring Term 1



Happy New Year and welcome back. We hope you had a lovely Christmas break. This half term our topic is '**Frozen Planet**'. During this topic we will have lots of opportunities for looking at the weather, different materials, living things and their habitats. We will explore digital media linked to our 'Frozen Planet' topic to extend our vocabulary, which we will then use as inspiration for writing, art, science, and geography.

This half term we will be doing **PE with Emily** on Thursday mornings.

### English and Phonics

- Through our **Frozen Planet** topic we will be:
- Looking at and writing in different forms including; letters, diary entries, character and setting descriptions and stories.
  - Reading fiction books including *Lost and Found* by Oliver Jeffers and *The Big Dark* by John Prater.
  - Reading non-fiction books related to Penguins and Antarctica. As well as reading about the journey of Ernest Shackleton which we will link to our history work.



- In our writing we will be focusing on:
- Sequencing sentences to form short narratives
  - Adding suffixes using the spelling rule for adding -s or -es to change words from singular to plural.
  - Using exclamation marks.
  - Reading our work back to an adult.

In **Phonics** the children in year 1 will be extending their knowledge of the sounds they use to read and spell. They will be focusing on vowel sounds which use a split diagraph for spelling e.g. **make** (the ai sound is made by the **a\_e** with the **k** in between).

### Topic

We will be using our topic '**Frozen Planet**' to explore Antarctica, in **science** we will look at the different kinds of animal that live there and compare and classify them, learning about the different animal groups; mammals, birds, fish, reptiles and amphibians. Our **Geography** work will allow us to explore different weather extremes and compare weather in different areas of the world. In **History** we will follow Ernest Shackleton's journey to the South Pole. We will look at creating winter landscapes in **Art** using digital media, different photography shots will be combined with landscapes created using collage. Finally our work looking at Inuit life will lead us to designing and making our own dog sleds during **Design Technology**.

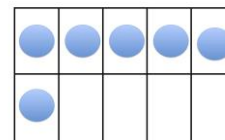


### Maths

This half term in Maths we will be:

- Counting forwards and backwards in ones and continuing to practice counting in multiples of 2 and 10.
- Adding by counting on
- Learning our number bonds (2 numbers added together to make the same answer) to 20. E.g.  $12+8=20$  and  $17+3=20$ .
- Adding by making 10.
- Adding and subtracting one and two-digit numbers to 20, using different strategies to help, such as counting on or back, using a part-whole model and using a ten frame.
- Comparing number sentences.
- Using strategies we have learnt to explain our answers and apply them to solve problems.

**Help at home by encouraging children to count in 2s e.g. when pairing up socks or shoes.**



This half term the children in reception will be:

### Phonics

We will be continuing to develop our reading skills by segmenting the sounds in words to read them using the sounds we have already learnt such as c-l-o-ck then squeezing these together to read 'clock'

We will then begin to introduce new sounds j, v, w, x, y, z, zz and learn about digraphs where two letters together make one sound such as: sh (ship), ch (chin), th (moth), ng (ring).



### Maths

This half term we will be continuing to work on counting and number recognition, ensuring that all children are confident working with numbers to at least 10, counting our objects from a larger group and also selecting the correct numeral to represent 1-10 objects.

We will also be working on measure and ordering items by length or height as well as weight or capacity.



### Communication, Language and Literacy

We'll be focusing our work around polar stories including Oliver Jeffers' 'Lost and Found' and John Prater's 'The Big Dark'. We will be enjoying reading stories, predicting what will happen and discussing and describing characters and settings from them. We'll be expanding our vocabulary by learning about penguins and encouraging children to ask questions to develop their knowledge. We will also be using our phonics to help us to write labels and begin to write sentences linked to our focus books. **Help at home by looking at polar animals, homes, expeditions etc... and encouraging your child to talk about the sounds they can hear in words.**

### Physical Development

In PE, we'll be working with our sports coach, Emily on co-ordination skills.

We will also be working on throwing, catching and rolling skills and beginning to use these for team games.

We will be introducing handwriting practice where children will learn how to form their letters correctly.

**Help at home by practising letter formation using the different handwriting families you received at Parents**

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will be talking about who and what are special to us.

We will also be thinking about achieving goals and how we can do this.

**Help at home by giving praise when children persist with learning something new such as learning to tie laces etc...**

### Understanding the World

Throughout our Frozen Planet topic, we will be looking at different types of weather and how they change in different parts of the world. We will also be finding out about Ernest Shackleton's journey to the South Pole.

### Creative Development

This half term we'll be combining photography and collage to create our own polar art using animals. We will also be using clay to mould and create models, and we will be designing and making our own dog sleds as part of our work on Inuit life.



### Reminders

Please make sure that your child has the following items in school with them every day:

- A waterproof coat, wellies and their book bag

We change books every **Tuesday and Friday.**

If you have any questions please ask 😊 Thank you,  
Miss Murgatroyd and Mrs Murphy.