

Dear Parent / Carer,

Welcome to Year 1! We are sure that your children will settle in quickly and happily. At the beginning of each half term we will provide you with a brief outline of the topics to be covered. This should help keep you up to date with their learning journey and enable you to engage in their learning at home.

Autumn 1

Topic Title – Why Don't Penguins Need To Fly?

We will be looking at the key geographical features of the Antarctica environment. How penguins have adapted to cope in these extreme conditions will be explored. We will use observational skills to compare the similarities and differences between the North and South Pole. To complete these investigations we will contrast Antarctica with the Sahara and consider how other animals have adapted to these harsh conditions.

Maths

We will revisit counting, reading and writing numbers to 10 in numerals and words and introduce counting to at least 20 forwards and backwards from any given number. We are beginning to introduce counting, reading and writing numbers to at least 20 in numerals. We will work on understanding and using the vocabulary of equal, more than, less than, most and least which will form a key part of our learning.

Writing

We will begin to use labels and captions to explain our understanding of penguins and Antarctica. We will develop in confidence to have a go at using our phonic knowledge to spell unfamiliar words. The children will slowly be introduced to the Year 1 Common Exception words and encouraged to try and spell these correctly. These are common words which cannot be sounded out using their phonic skills and by the end of Year 1 they should be able to spell most of them correctly.

Reading

This year we are introducing a new phonics programme called Read Write Inc. Further information will follow. Your child will read in a group with an adult twice a week as part of our guided reading sessions. Throughout the term we will share and explore a wide range of texts in class.