Class 2 - Spring 2 Newsletter

Welcome back to the second half of our Spring term. This half term we will be travelling to The Arctic via Rufforth Airways to learn all about our new topic "Why can't a meerkat live in the North Pole?" Please see below as to how our theme will be taught in a cross curricular way through a variety of subjects.

Science – Living things and their habitats

In Science, we will be studying a variety of animals and plants and learning about the different habitats they live in. We will then explore the food different animals eat and where they source it from. This will result in us demonstrating our knowledge through the use of food chains.

Geography – Arctic Explorers

In Geography this half term, we will be identifying hot and cold countries and regions in the world and locating the equator and hemispheres on a globe. We will learn about what the weather, animals, terrain and lifestyle is like in hot countries and compare this with life in cold countries.

DT – Keep us warm and safe: Shelter building

We will investigate how a variety of different shelters have been built and learn about what makes them successful. We will plan and construct our own shelters and evaluate their effectiveness through a variety of tests.

Why can't a meerkat live in the North Pole?

Art – Painting

In Art, we will be learning about the work of Rothko. Using a palette of warm and cool colours, we will represent the different climates we have studied in Geography. The children will then choose the colours they prefer to create their own Rothko inspired painting.

Literacy

We will use our topic of the Arctic as inspiration for a variety of different writing units this half term. We will hot seat a scientist who has set up a base camp in the Arctic. This will help us find out more about what they have observed with the different animals and weather. Using our knowledge gained from their answers, we will compose a persuasive letter to apply for the job of an assistant scientist at the new base camp. We will then take part in our own freeze frames to portray the different tasks a scientist may undertake whilst on a field trip. Following this, we will write a diary entry about our first week in our new role exploring the Arctic.

Guest Speaker Invitation

If any parents feel they would be able to contribute in any way to our learning outlined above through knowledge, personal trips or their own careers then please come and see the Class 2 team so that this can be arranged.

Important Class Notices and Reminders

Behaviour expectations in Class 2

All staff in school follow our behaviour policy. The children receive individual dojos, Star of the Week certificates and other class incentives. As a class we collect as many dojos to help us earn our Golden Time on a Friday. If children do not follow the school rules then they are moved on to the step system. This is discussed with the children at the start of each term and revisited when required. You can find a copy of this in your child's planner.

Just a reminder that your child needs to bring a bag of suitable clothing and shoes when we complete our Forest School sessions. If the weather conditions are too extreme and your child does not have the correct clothes and shoes then they will not be able to take part. Please remember to bring waterproofs if the weather is looking particularly wet.

Our next Forest School sessions are on:
Tuesday 28th February 2023
Tuesday 14th March 2023
Tuesday 28th March 2023

Reading

We ask that families support their child at home with their reading to ensure their key skills are embedded and their fluency is improved. We ask that every child reads aloud to an adult for a minimum of 10 minutes a day, five days a week.

In order for your child's books to be changed weekly (on a Thursday) there must be a parental note in the planner showing that both books have been read. Unfortunately, if no notification is left in the planner then the books will not be changed until the following Thursday.

Communication

We are looking forward to an exciting start to Spring Term 2 in our role as Arctic explorers. If you would like to communicate any messages to the KS1 team, please write these in the children's planners. Please let your child know that a note is in there so they can notify the Class 2 staff. You can also contact us via email (gsunley@rufforth.pmat.academy and kcobb@rufforth.pmat.academy) or call the school office if you would like to speak via the phone or arrange a meeting outside of our teaching day.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Mrs Sunley, Mrs Cobb and the KS1 team