



P.P.S. Beech Class

February 2025
Spring Term

Shackleton-Endurance is Ice Locked!

Dear Parents,

This term we will be looking at the famous journey Shackleton and his crew took in order to be the first people to cross Antarctica, travelling through to the South Pole! This is always an interesting and exciting learning experience for the children as it enables them to develop their geographical knowledge of the world. They become more aware of what different continents and countries experience in terms of extreme weather, animal population and land use. This feeds into our Geography curriculum where we will be looking at the Polar regions, developing an understanding of topographical features around the U.K. as well as making comparisons between land use.

In Science, we will be continuing our learning of Animals including humans where we will be investigating what our bodies need to thrive and how our bodies move, exploring the structure of a human skeleton and developing an understanding of why we need muscles. In the second half of the spring term, we move onto plants where the children build on their previous knowledge from KS1, and begin to understand how a plant makes its own

This is just an outline of what the children will be exploring during this topic. We are using these newsletters to give you information about your child's education as this will replace the foundation subjects comments on the annual report.

food, the function of each part of the plant, as well as carrying out investigations to learn how water is transported through a plant.

Our P.E. lessons will take place on Tuesday and Friday. This term, our P.E. lessons will focus on gymnastics where the children will become familiar with using equipment as well as using floor space effectively. The children will also be taking swimming lessons where they will be taught effective swimming techniques and engage with water activities to improve confidence in the water.

Computing lessons this term will focus on using Scratch, where they will be inputting sound and becoming more familiar with code and giving instructions. In the second half of the term we will be looking at ways to organise data as well as structuring data.

In Art, we will be looking at the work of Malevich and the impact he had. We will be taking inspiration from his work, using skills such as colour mixing and shape design to create our own piece of Malevich work.

In the second half of the spring term, during D.T., we will be designing and making tote bags. The children will be exploring different sewing joins as well as thinking about a suitable design fit for purpose.

As well as discussing and thinking about the core values that permeate the school's collective



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Animals including humans/Where in the World?

worships this term. In R.E. we will be introducing the children to Islam and why Muhammed is the Seal of the Prophets. We will be moving onto people of God.

Throughout the term, year 3 will be taking part in weekly drumming lessons. The children will be learning to play the Djembes, recognising notes and understanding tone and pitch, base and tempo.

English and Maths will continue to be taught daily and will, wherever possible, be linked to the topic to give the children's learning cross-curricular context. In English, for example, we are using the Shackleton expedition to influence our diary writing and explanation text.

As always, we value the support you give your children at home and the work you do with them to consolidate their learning. Year three will be reading daily in class, either independently or with an adult. Our primary focus is to encourage the children to explore reading materials and find enjoyment in reading. It would be helpful, also, if you could listen to your child read regularly at home and record this in their Reading Records.

Maths homework tasks will be set each week in their homework books and TT Rockstars. Children will also be given a weekly reading comprehension activity which can be completed in their homework books. We also ask children to complete their spelling activities on EdShed. Homework will be set on a Thursday and will be collected in on a Tuesday. Spellings will follow the National Curriculum spelling patterns and weekly lists will also include two words from the Year 3 statutory list. Times tables and spellings will be tested every week.

We look forward to sharing the children's learning with you over the coming weeks,

Kind regards

Miss Langham

Class teacher