



Waddesdon Village Primary School
Pathway to Excellence
Year 1 Curriculum Newsletter
Spring 1

Topic: Polar Explorers



Welcome back to Class 1!

Welcome back!
I hope you had a wonderful break this half term.

Our topic this term is 'Polar Explorers' I hope you are looking forward to a term full of exciting, creative and inspiring learning opportunities.

Weekly schedules:

PE is on a Monday and a Friday. The children will need to come dressed for PE sessions in suitable clothing for the weather.

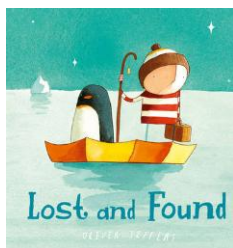
Library will be on a Tuesday.

Golden Time and Show and Tell is on a Friday.

Reading books will be changed on a Monday. Please bring in reading folders everyday.

English

Our key text in English this term is 'Lost and Found' by Oliver Jeffers.



This term we will be developing our ability to write in complete simple sentences using capital letters, interesting vocabulary and full stops. We will also explore exclamation and question marks in our writing along with sequencing our sentences. We will continue to develop our story telling skills by orally retelling and story mapping the text. Then finally composing our own versions of the story.

In addition to this, children will have daily phonics lessons and regular handwriting sessions.

Mathematics

We will be continuing with **our NCETM Mastery Scheme**. This half term we will be finishing our work on shape and will then move on to deeper exploration of the numbers 6-10. We will be partitioning and looking for patterns within these numbers. We will also use this to explore odd and even numbers in more detail.

Later in the half term, we will also begin to look at additive structures and how numbers combine to make larger ones. We will practice strategies for addition and will work to develop our fluency with number facts within 10.

Phonics



In year 1, we continue with the daily phonics lesson that the children began in reception, using the ELS phonics scheme.

This half term we will be beginning to learn the Phase 5 alternate graphemes and will be thinking about how we can use our phonics knowledge to decode unfamiliar words.

Humanities

This half term, Year 1 will be focusing on geography and learning about the North and South Poles, including the different kinds of animals that live at both. We will also explore some of the history of polar exploration and consider what an explorer would need to take with them on a journey.





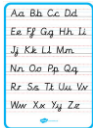


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<p>Art/DT</p> <p>This term we will be experimenting with a variety of different materials to design and make a boat for our own arctic adventure.</p> <p>The children will have time to experiment with different materials to identify which would be most suitable for a boat.</p> <p>We will experiment with the use of colour, pattern, texture and shape during this unit of work creating our own versions of Katsushika Hokusai's wave art work.</p>	<p>Science</p> <p>This term we will be learning about 'Animals and Humans'. We will be identifying and naming a variety of common animals.</p> <p>We will explore carnivores, herbivores and omnivores, as well as conducting experiments to test which materials are most suitable for cold weather.</p>
<p>Computing</p>  <p>This term we will be exploring the Purple Mash units Lego Builders and Maze Explorers. In these units of work the children will have the opportunity to create and debug simple programs.</p> <p>As well as this, we will be exploring how people can present themselves in a positive way online.</p>	<p>PSHE</p>  <p>Our theme for this term is 'Health and Wellbeing'. We will be thinking about how good hygiene helps to keep us physically healthy and how we can look after our mental health too.</p>
<p>Music</p> <p>This term we will be learning about dynamics in our music lessons, using the idea of a storm at sea and creating our own soundscapes.</p>	<p>RE</p> <p>This term we will be exploring the concept of Jesus as a friend. The children will have time to discuss and share their ideas in a safe and supportive environment.</p>
<p>PE</p> <p>In PE we will be continuing our work on gymnastics, exploring a range of different movement styles and considering how we can work together to create new shapes.</p>	<p>Handwriting</p> <p>This half term, we will begin to practice the pre-cursive letter formation that we will need to be able to begin joined up writing in Year 2.</p> 
<p>How you can support your child at home?</p> <p>Reading: Children are encouraged to read as often as possible at home, preferably 15 minutes every day. This does not always have to be their reading book though. Listening to an adult read is also a valuable experience where they will hear a rich and varied vocabulary which will help develop their writing. We will change books weekly on a Monday. Unfortunately, if a book is not returned, your child will not receive a new one. Please write in their reading record when they have read so we know we can change the book. More information can be found in the Reading Record.</p> <p>Maths: Numbots is a great way for children to practise their addition and subtraction skills with a focus on number bonds. Your child's log in information can be found in their reading record book.</p>	



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Important Dates

10th February Safer Internet Day

Show and Tell Timetable

9/1/26 – Ascott

16/1/26 – Claydon

23/1/26 – Hartwell

30/1/26 – Mentmore

6/2/26 – Ascott

13/2/26 – Claydon