

Penguin News

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Dear Parents,

Welcome to the latest Penguin class newsletter!

Happy New Year and I hope that you've all had a good holiday and are now ready for 2012! The Spring term is always a very busy one and we've lots of very important learning to do before Easter. Please make sure that your child has plenty of sleep and a good breakfast, so that they come to school ready to learn.

January and February are always our coldest months so please make sure that your child has warm things to wear for playtimes. Children need a pair of wellingtons in school, so that they can play on the field.

Good attendance is VITAL; it is the season for coughs and colds. Please remember that if your child is a little poorly (cough, sneezes) please let me know in the morning. We will keep an eye on them at school and call you if they begin to feel very unwell.

We would like to welcome Jahan who has recently joined the class. He is settling in so well done to all the Penguins who are making him feel very welcome!

This half term Penguins will have PE on **Tuesdays** and **Fridays**. Please make sure children have a complete PE uniform in school: t shirt, shorts/tracksuit, socks and plimsolls. PE kits will now be stored on our new indoor pegs.

It has been lovely to see so many children join the lunchtime and after school clubs, I know how much the children enjoy them. We have many class trips planned for Year 1 this term; please make sure you check your child's book bag for important letters!

Can I remind you that homework will be given out every Friday along with children's spellings sheets. Please make sure children do the homework and bring it to school by the following **Friday morning**. Spellings will be tested every Friday so please keep the spellings sheets at home so that you can practise them throughout the week.

In Literacy we will be learning about the features of non-fiction texts and dictionary work.

My Literacy writing targets are:

- I can use joining words to make my sentences longer.
- I can write at least 3 clear sentences.
- I can write at least 1 clear sentence
- I will leave clear finger spaces between my words.
- I can write my name clearly

Reading targets are now glued into the children's individual reading records

In Maths we will be solving addition and subtraction problems including money; counting forwards and backwards in 1s, 2s, 5s and 10s and understanding place value.

My Maths targets are:

- I can solve word problems with numbers up to 10
- I can solve word problems with numbers up to 20
- I can solve word problems with numbers up to 100

Over the next 5 weeks, Year 1 will be working on a topic called "Buildings".

During this unit we will be learning about History, Geography, Art, Science, Technology, Music, ICT and PE.

In Geography we'll be finding out about

- Different houses, homes and other buildings around the world.

In Science we'll be finding out about

- Materials used in structures
- Testing the strengths of structures.

In Art we'll be

- Drawing pictures of local buildings
- Making and decorating models of buildings
- Making prints.

In Technology we'll be

- Making models of homes
- Making picture frames

In Music we'll be

- Exploring the structures of tunes and songs
- Composing and comparing our own music.

In ICT we'll be learning about

- How to create words and images.
- Saving, locating and editing work.
- How to stay safe when using ICT.

In International Issues we'll be learning about

- One another's individuality
- Name and location of different countries
- Similarities and differences between homes.

In History we'll be finding out about

- How buildings were made in the past
- How buildings have been used
- How people travelled in the past.

In RE we'll be learning about

- Belonging.
- How different religious groups welcome someone new to the group.

We'll also be keeping active through our gym and games in P.E. lessons.

In PSHE our theme is 'Going for Goals'

The children will be reading, illustrating, writing, constructing and researching independently and also in groups. We will check your child's learning by listening to their questions and asking them to explain their work. We will be observing their interactions with each other and the activities.

Your enthusiasm and interest in your child's work makes a **real difference** to their learning. Please discuss your child's work with them as the term progresses. Point out any interesting buildings that you pass with your child. Notice how they have been constructed and the materials used. Talk about buildings you have visited on holidays and/or famous buildings. Play building games with your child: using blocks, bricks, boxes and junk modelling.

Please feel welcome to come and have a look in our classroom. If you have any queries or comments please come and speak to me. I am always happy to answer any questions and help in any way.

.....Miss Sergejev

