

Rabbit Class

Our Project this half term is:

Explorers



This half term....

We hope you had a great Christmas and we would like to wish you all a Happy New Year. Rabbits have another exciting half term ahead. Our topic is **Explorers** and we will be exploring The Arctic and travelling back in time to learn about Dinosaurs. The first week back we will begin by talking with the children about their existing knowledge as well as possible lines of development for this project.

The Arctic and Dinosaurs

In our classroom we have an Arctic themed role-play area and will enjoy pretending to be an Inuit, imagining what it would be like to live in the Arctic. In **Literacy** we will be reading a range of fiction and non-fiction books about The Arctic and Dinosaurs. We will focus on the books 'Penguin Small' and 'Don't wake the Bear, Hare!', 'Harry and the Bucket of Dinosaurs', 'Dinosaurs and all that Rubbish' and 'Ug Boy Genius of the Stone Age'. In **Maths** we will be recognising and ordering numbers to 20 and beyond; Place value; Finding one more and two more or one less and two less than a given number; Sort and describe 2D shapes and 3D solids; Continue a repeating pattern with three colours/shapes/objects; Symmetrical patterns; Know how key times of day are shown on the clock, analogue and digital; Begin to know months of the year, including important months, e.g. birthday, celebrated festivals; Recognise 1p, 2p, 5p and 10p coins and know the value of each. As part of our **Understanding of the World**, we will be finding out facts about the Arctic; Keeping hot/cold - hot water bottle experiment; discussing hibernation. We will also be making and finding dinosaur eggs, excavating for bones and fossils and carrying out a fizzing egg science experiment. During our **Physical Development** sessions, the children will be focusing on their agility, balance and coordination and creating dinosaur movements to turn into a class dance within our dance sessions. We are going to have lots of fun with **Expressive Arts and Design**, exploring textures by creating collages of Arctic animals, creating junk models and making cave paintings using natural mediums. In our **RE** we will be finding different ways that we can help others when they need it.

Useful Information - Just to remind you...

- P.E. for Rabbit class will still be on a Wednesday and Friday afternoon. **Please clearly name all clothing.**
- Please can you listen to your child read at home daily, it really does make such a difference.
- The children have loved sharing their WOW achievements with the class this term. Please ask for further post it notes if you have run out. These WOW achievements can be large or small moments in your child's life. We always like to promote the children's achievements and acknowledge their progress. For example a WOW could be: 'Timmy helped lay the table at Nanny's house', 'Thomas tried really hard to do his own coat up' or 'Jackie had her first swimming lesson'.
- Please can you help your child to practise their phonics and handwriting in their yellow phonics book.
- We aim to access the outdoor environment every day, therefore please send your child in with a **named** coat, whatever the weather. Any support you can give your child at home to encourage them to put on their own coat and do it up is hugely important in developing their independence and is indeed a requirement in the new Early Years curriculum. Please also ensure your child has a warm hat and gloves for those chilly days.

Our reading, writing and maths has really progressed over the course of the Autumn term and we are excited to see what we can all achieve in this coming Spring term.

Mrs Duncan and Miss Garland