

Whaddon CofE School



Curriculum Overview Spring 1 2024 – Arctic Adventure

EYFS – Hedgehogs Class

Class Teacher: Mrs Marchant

Literacy	The children will be continuing their Drawing Club journey by exploring different stories about the Arctic and going on adventures. We will be reading stories such as Lost and Found and Dear Polar Bear . Through Drawing Club, the children will explore key vocabulary as well as drawing pictures related to the story. The children will then be encouraged to use their phonics knowledge to write short phrases and sentences related to their picture. We will continue to discuss the importance of using capital letters, full stops and finger spaces when writing sentences. When reading stories, the children will be encouraged to talk about what they notice is happening, we will be working on our prediction skills to predict what might happen in a story.
Phonics	We will be continuing our Little Wandle lessons by moving on the Phase 3 sounds. Please check the Phonics page on our website for information about the sounds the children will be learning. We will be introducing the children to several new digraphs and trigraphs . In our reading sessions the children will be reading books containing the digraphs. The books the children read are carefully match to the children's reading ability. The children will have the opportunity to develop their comprehension, fluency and prosody .
Mathematics	We will start the Spring term by consolidating our knowledge of composition of numbers. We will be exploring and recalling number bonds to 5. We will start to use our reasoning skills to explain why we think something. We will then move on to exploring mass and capacity . We will use our investigation skills to think about which objects are heavier and which are lighter. We will build upon our learning about capacity by comparing which container holds the most or least amount of liquid. After that we will be introducing the children to the concept of doubling , we will do this through practical activities where the children will be able to discuss what they notice. Finally, we will be investigating the concept of length and height . The children will have the opportunity to explore this through practical activities such as a shoe shop in the role play area.
PSED	As a class we will be thinking about we how we can identify and manage our own feelings both socially and emotionally. Through Circle times and discussions in the classroom the children will have the opportunity to explore how they might be feeling and strategies they could use if they are feeling a particular way. We will also be thinking about how some actions could make someone else feel. In our PSHE sessions, the children will be learning about how to take on challenges . They will be learning new skills that will help them to show resilience and perseverance in the face of challenge.
Communication and Language	We will continue to develop our communication and language skills by listening and retelling familiar stories. The children will have the opportunity to use story related vocabulary and props to retell their favourite parts of a story. They will be encouraged to explain their thinking. As the half term progresses, we will also be learning to ask questions to find out more information about a topic.
Physical Development	In the classroom the children will be continuing to work on developing their fine motor skills by accessing a variety of activities in the provision. The children will be continuing to develop their use of scissors in order to create their own props for stories. We will also be working on our letter formation both in our phonics lessons and during independent learning activities. In PE lessons (led by Sports4All coaches), the children will be learning key fundamentals of dance . They will explore creating simple movements both independently and with others. The children will also participate in games and activities which involve developing teamwork and coordination.

Understanding the World – Science	This half term we will be using our scientific skills to explore the season of Winter . We will explore the key signs of winter by participating in a winter themed walk. We will be exploring the process of freezing and melting . The children will be using their investigative skills in order to figure out how to make ice melt. Arctic and Antarctic animals will also feature in our learning this half term. The children will be exploring which animals live where and will learn some key facts about the animals.
Understanding the World – History	In our Understanding the World (history) sessions the children will be looking at some of the key explorers who have been to visit the Arctic/Antarctica. The children will have the opportunity to use their comparison skills to think about what equipment is taken to the Arctic now and what was used in the past. They will be able to talk about what they notice and will begin to think about similarities and differences .
Understanding the World – Geography	This half term we will be looking at where in the world the Arctic and Antarctica is. We will be exploring what it is like in these places and will compare them to other countries including the UK. The children will use their comparison skills to discuss what they notice about each country and will begin to think about similarities and differences.
Religious Education	Our big question this half term is 'What can different stories from the bible teach us?' We will be exploring what the bible tells us about right and wrong choices and what we can learn from them. We will be looking at the stories of Jonah and the Whale and the Good Samaritan . After reading the stories we will be thinking about the choices that were made in the stories and what we can learn from each story. Towards the end of the half term we will be learning all about Lunar New Year and how it is celebrated.
Expressive Arts and Design	In Expressive Arts and Design, we will be creating our own landscape paintings . We will be exploring the concept of colour mixing and what happens when you add white or black to a colour in order to create lighter and darker shades. We will then use this to create the background to the paintings. Further on into the half term we will explore using ice to create pictures and will talk about what we notice.

PE

Our PE lesson is on a Tuesday afternoon. Please ensure your child comes to school dressed in PE kit and is dressed appropriately for outdoor PE.

Playtimes/lunchtime and Forest School

Our Forest School session will be on a Friday morning, please ensure your child comes to school dressed appropriately for Forest School. It would be useful to have a spare change of clothes in school in case your child keeps muddy and wet. The children access the field and Forest School area on a frequent basis. Please ensure they always have the necessary clothing.

