

Year 4 Newsletter

Autumn 2 - 2026



Diary Dates

Foster's Fireworks – 04.11.26
Parents Evening – 18.11.26-19.11.26
Carols by Candlelight – 03.12.26
Christmas fair – 04.12.26
National Maritime Museum Trip – 08.12.26
Christmas dinner day – 17.11.26
Last Day of Autumn Term – 18.12.26 (Wear own clothes and Christmas party)

Snapshot - What happens when?

Wednesday: Homework due
PE Pine and Willow
Thursday: Willow tennis,
Friday: Spelling test, Times Tables check,
homework set.

Our books for the term are:



This term we will be learning about Antarctica through our two texts '*Ice Palace*' and '*Ice Trap*'. We will make predictions and inferences about *Ice Palace*, before exploring the book further and discovering what life was like in Antarctica. The children will have lots of exciting writing opportunities this term. We will start the term by writing a descriptive piece focusing on prepositional language and noun phrases before writing a biography on the life of Ernest Shackleton.

Following on from this, in Geography we will be learning about life in Antarctica. We will learn about the climate and compare it to other countries and climates. The children will research the topological features of Antarctica as well as listing its human and physical features. We will also study the changes in the global temperature and how this is now affecting the world around us.

In addition, the children will be able to further learn about different Polar Regions on Earth. This will aid their understanding of weather and the impacts on glaciers.

Mathematics

In maths this half term, we continue to learn about addition and subtraction. Then, we start by looking at measurement, focusing on what is area. Following this, we will begin work on multiplication and division and continue this into the spring term. We will use a variety of concrete manipulatives to support and consolidate our learning within these topics. We will have a big focus on times tables this half term.

Science

Our topic for science this half term is states of matter. We will be comparing solids, liquids and gasses. We will observe that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled, and measure or research the temperature at which this happens in degrees Celsius (°C). We will also be studying the water cycle and how this relates to life in the polar ice caps.

French

This half term, we will be focusing on Ice creams in French. We will be building our knowledge on different flavours and how to pronounce their names in French. We will then begin learning how to order ice creams with confidence.

PSHE

Our topic this term in PSHE is Celebrating Difference. Over the course of the term, the children will learn about different opinions and different perspectives. Furthermore, we will be challenging the children to think about how they should react to people who do not hold the same belief or opinion as themselves. We will end the unit by looking at anti-bullying and how to stay safe.

Art and DT

This term's Art focus is Textiles! We will explore how you use colour, texture and layers in artwork. The children will practise different stitching techniques before planning and creating their own Antarctic-inspired textile collage. They will use a range of fabrics, colours, textures and stitches to bring their designs to life before evaluating their finished piece.

Reading

In addition to your topic homework... Remember to keep reading at home! We would love you to record yourself reading to a parent or family member with expression and fluency, then have a short discussion about the book by asking them a few interview-style questions. Please email your video to school—we're going to create a reading display with QR codes so everyone can celebrate and enjoy each other's reading.

If you have any questions about the work we are covering this term, or need to see us for any other reason, then please feel free to catch us after school on the front playground.

Many thanks, Mrs Boyle and Miss McCallion