

Kingsfleet Primary School
E.Y.F.S Home-School Link

January 2018

Dear Parents

I hope that you all enjoyed your Christmas break and I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year.

Our themes for the first half of the spring term are 'polar regions' and for the second half of the term they are 'bears'. We will also be learning about the Chinese New Year and Easter. These themes will be explored through the following six 'Areas of Learning'.

Personal and Social Education.

We will be building on the children's ability to work and play cooperatively. Our aim is to develop each child's confidence, independence and high self-esteem. We will be focusing on learning about special events and celebrations.

Home-Link: considering special things that are done within the family, this may be going swimming, watching a film or celebrating a birthday.

Literacy and Numeracy.

The reading scheme books are changed at least once a week, and these are primarily for the child to read to you. Please feel free to record your comments in the yellow reading diary. If your child is now reading books with words in, then as long as you note in the reading diary that you have heard your child read that book and they have done with little or no problem, then reading books will be changed on Mondays and Fridays. Please remind your child to let us know it needs changing as we do not check book bags on a daily basis.

Our literacy work will be based upon polar books and we will look at both fiction and non-fiction books. This will also hopefully involve some work in the school library.

The children will be developing their counting skills to 10 and beyond and singing counting songs. We will be naming 2.D and 3.D shapes, looking for patterns around us and naming coins.

Home-School Link: sharing reading material of all descriptions with your child; letting your child help write lists, cards etc. (encourage him/her to make his/her

own shapes and letter strings rather than making him/her write the word 'correctly'). This fosters a child's willingness and confidence to write and allows them to learn correct conventions at the appropriate developmental stage with greater ease.

Sing number songs, including: Five little men in a flying saucer
Flew round the world one day
They looked left and right
And they didn't like the sight
So one man flew away.

Knowledge and Understanding of the World.

Science: we will be considering how materials change when they are cooled, heated, dissolved, melted etc.

History and Geography: We will be hiding polar bears and giving directions and using arrows to find them and learning about the polar regions.

Technology: We will be learning how to program Bee Bot and using the CD player.

Home-Link:

Look for things around the home that melt, freeze, dissolve or change with heating e.g. pasta, jelly, sugar, bath salts, ice-lollies.

Physical Development.

Many classroom activities will be extended outside, allowing the activities to be developed in a different environment.

P.E. on Tuesday afternoons will, where possible, be outside therefore the children do need appropriate clothing and footwear i.e. tracksuit, trainers etc and could you please provide girls who wear tights with a pair of socks. Please could you remove earrings on the days that we have P.E. and tie back any long hair.

We must again ask that you name your child's clothing as one sweatshirt etc looks very much the same as another and at the end of P.E. especially, a lot of time is spent trying to match clothes to children. This becomes more of a problem as the school year goes on and the names get washed away!

Home-Link: all the things done at home during the course of a normal weekend will contribute to your child's physical development, from jumping on the bed to going swimming.

Creative Development.

Our music involves singing and exploring percussion instruments. Through art activities the children are encouraged to develop skills and express themselves through a variety of media, including, clay, print making and using contrasting paint qualities.

Home-Links: listening to a piece of music, dancing to it, closing their eyes and seeing what pictures they can imagine, all help the children to develop their listening skills. Discussing prints, pictures in books and magazines and the design of items around the home all help to develop a child's aesthetic and critical awareness. Any opportunity to paint, draw or make up stories is helpful in developing a child's memory and imagination.

Many thanks to the parents who have already brought in snack and cooking money. Children need to bring in £1.00 a week , (£5.00 for the first half term or £11.00 to cover the whole term). You can pay this by cheque, BACs or cash at the office. Our class bears Pepe and Alper will be coming home with the children at weekends and each child will have a turn of taking the bears home. If you are doing something special or have an important occasion then let us know and if possible we will arrange for a bear to come home with your child. Please please please if somebody else is going to be picking your child up could you please let us know when you drop them off or if this is not possible could you please ring the school and let us know. It is always quite worrying when somebody unexpected arrives and we have not been informed.

Yvonne Chatt