

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope you all enjoyed the Christmas break and we are all feeling refreshed and relaxed ready for the year ahead. We would like to thank you on behalf of all the staff who work in Reception, for all the kind and thoughtful gifts that we received.

**Reading:** Thank you for all your support at home with reading so far. We will continue to read with children daily and during daily ERIC (everyone reading in class) time. Please can children bring their book bag into school everyday. Our reading scheme follows our Little Wandle Letters and Sounds phonics programme and supports the sounds we teach daily.

**Prime Areas:** This half term we will discuss our impact on the environment and how this makes us feel. We will continue to use the colour monsters to help us manage our own feelings.



**RE:** In RE, we are exploring the story of Creation. We will re-familiarise the children with the story of creation and discuss why our world is so special and what we can do to keep our world a special place.



**English:** In English, we are enjoying stories by 'Oliver Jeffers'. We are looking in detail at the story of 'Lost and Found'. The children will make predictions about the story and help to create missing posters for the lost penguin. Linked to our RE, we will also be exploring the story of 'Somebody Swallowed Stanley'. We will be finding out if plastic bags should be in the ocean.



**Maths:** In Mathematics, the children will apply their knowledge of number to larger numbers. We will continue to subitise and conserve numbers up to 10 and further develop their knowledge of number bonds, addition and subtraction. We will also explore measures, comparing length, weight and height.



**Understanding the World:** Linked to our English focus, we will try to answer the question: *Can a polar bear and penguin be friends?* We will explore the Antarctic and the animals you may find there. We have many fun ice investigations planned including trying to release some frozen animals from blocks of ice.

**Expressive Arts and Design:** We will design and make our own penguins and igloos and explore how we can paint using ice.

**Learning Journeys:** Thank you for all the home learning that has been shared so far on Tapestry. We love looking at their achievements at home and sharing with the class. If you are still having problems accessing tapestry, please let a member of staff know.

**Penguin Boats:** As part of our story Lost and Found we will be making boats to help the penguin return to the South Pole. Please could you send in any box modelling and recycling materials that would be good to use for boat building. Thank you.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs McCaul, Miss Perry and Mrs Morgan.