



*Holy Family Catholic Primary School*

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*We pray together. We play together. We learn together.*

# Year One Newsletter

Dear Parents / Carers,

Hello everyone, apologies for the absence of a newsletter last week, I was on a course learning how to be a Forest Schools Leader. It was a brilliant week and I can't wait to start Forest Schools at Holy Family using our fantastic Wildlife Garden. We will keep you updated with this as it progresses.

## Literacy

Last week the children were fully engrossed learning all about the Arctic with Mrs Quiggley and Miss Cook and have learnt many facts about the environment and animals found there.

The children also loved watching clips from the David Attenborough series Frozen Planet. We wrote sentences about the different things we watched including the Great Grey Owl, Polar Bear cubs and a giant iceberg that broke and fell into the Arctic Ocean. There was a real sense of awe and wonder when watching this clip, the children found it utterly fascinating! Our challenge was not to describe the iceberg as big but think of other words that mean the same thing. The children thought of gigantic, humungous, massive, enormous and huge. Some of these words were so brilliant they went on our new WOW word wall. This is where we write words that are super duper and will turn us into fantastic writers.

Here are some of the clips we watched in class. The Frozen Planet series is currently available on Netflix and we watched the first episode one wet lunchtime.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EiNZg22kcZw> Polar Bear cubs

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IQ72d8xYqqQ> An iceberg breaking

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wooKjxdPkBE> All the unique snowflakes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZbYSuhisKdO> Great Grey Owl catching a lemming

This week we have been reading the book The Rainbow Fish. It is a lovely story about a fish who shares his scales with the other fish who then become his friend. There is a great moral to the story about making the right choices and being a good friend and we really tried to think about our interactions with our friends this week and talked about the ways we can be a good friend to others at Holy Family. We talked about the word respect and how respecting others means we care for them and show them that we are not selfish like The Rainbow Fish is at the beginning of the story.

For our Big Draw we drew a picture of what we have learnt from the moral of the story.

## Maths

In Maths last week we learnt all about 3D shapes. We have learnt to identify: Spheres, Cubes, Cuboids, Cylinders, Pyramids and Cones! We have used a Venn Diagram to sort 2D from 3D shapes and have been very good at recognising the differences between 3D shapes that look similar like a cube and a cuboid. We have looked at everyday objects and related these to shapes such as recognising a box of cereal is a Cuboid!

In Maths this week we learnt about the word 'efficient' and how it means getting to the answer in the quickest way. We looked at groups of objects and saw how we could count them in 2s, 5s and 10s. We learnt how to show this in a number sentence using the 'x' symbol which means times, lots of, groups of or multiply.

## Letters and Sounds

We are now on Phase 5. When a new sound is introduced it is important that children practice these at home. To help you with this I will be sending home some sentences every week. As part of the homework requirements please practice these sentences over the weekend. Many thanks.

Our new sounds for last week were as follows:

oy (toy, boy, coy)  
ir (girl, twirl, bird)  
ue, this can make two sounds, (blue, clue, fuel)  
aw (claw, paw, saw)

Our tricky words were: Mr, Mrs, looked, called, asked

This week we have learnt the sounds:

wh (when, which)  
ph (photo, graph, phone)  
ew (screw, threw, few)  
oe (toe, goes)  
au (Autumn, launch)  
ey (key, monkey)

Our tricky words have been: said, so, have, like.

## Snack Money

Snack money for this half term is £10.50 - thank you in advance.

## Homework

Please complete the homework sheet provided. If your child finishes the worksheet independently, please move on to the challenge. Please feel free to use any resources needed for doing the worksheet - we do not expect all children to be doing these calculations mentally at this stage.

## School Website

Please do check our Year One section on the school website. Each week we will be putting photographs up and the Newsletter for you to access online. There are lots of exciting things on the school website for all to read and enjoy so please make use of it. ☺

### Reading Quality Mark

As a school we are trying to promote a love of reading. If you are reading a book at home, please let the children know they can bring it in and share with the class. Each week we will be choosing a Book Of The Week and promoting our class author Oliver Jeffers. We will also be starting to read *The Lion The Witch and the Wardrobe* as a class.

### Learning Stories

Learning Stories will be sent out next weekend.

### Teaching Student

This term we have a student on the Schools Direct programme who is working in Year One. Miss George will be joining us next week and will be taking guided reading groups and progressively more teaching over her 5 week placement. You may see her in the mornings taking the children in or letting them out after school so please feel free to introduce yourself and say hello. ☺

### Dates for your diary

Story Sack Meeting - Starts Monday the 11th January weekly 9.30-10.30

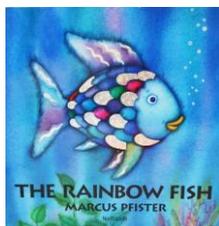
Parents Evening - Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2016

Half Term - 12<sup>th</sup> February 2016

Thank you for your continued support,  
Mrs Mitchell and Miss Cook ☺

## We love to read!

Year One have been reading:



Mrs Mitchell is currently reading:



## What are you reading at home?

# Phase 5 Letters and Sounds

Can you read the sentences? Remember to sound out any words you don't know. Look out for the tricky words!

Is it Mrs Brown's birthday today?

PhonicsPlay.co.uk

Phase 5 - Week 2 - Wednesday - Applying

An elephant said he flew like a bird.  
Do you think that this is true?

PhonicsPlay.co.uk

Phase 5 - Week 3 - Wednesday - Apply

Did Santa get stuck up the chimney?

PhonicsPlay.co.uk

Phase 5 - Week 3 - Friday - Applying

Can a jockey win on a donkey?

PhonicsPlay.co.uk