

### Communication and Language

Children will read a wide range of fiction and non-fiction books about winter, snow, ice and dark nights. They will discuss the signs of winter using extended and associated vocabulary and discuss a story relating it to their own experiences. Children will listen attentively in a range of situations, anticipate key events and respond to what they hear with relevant comments, questions or actions. Children will explore the meaning and sounds of new words.

# **Literacy**

**Key Texts:** 'The Bear's Winter House' by John Yeoman; 'The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark' by Jill Tomlinson; 'Here Comes Jack Frost' by Kazuno Kohara; 'One Snowy Night' by Nick Butterworth; 'Winnie in Winter' by Valerie Thomas; 'Thinking about the Seasons: Winter' by Clare Collinson; 'All About Animals in Winter' by Martha E.H Rustad

#### **Key Outcomes:**

**Reading:** Children will be learning to read short sentences about winter and engage with a range of books which will help to develop their vocabulary. They will also develop their understanding of how we can learn information from books and talk about the facts they have read.

**Writing:** Children will write captions for photographs and write simple instruction sentences.

**To help your child, you can:** Share photographs (of days out, family events etc) and encourage children to talk about what is happening in order to explain it, build their descriptive vocabulary by describing what they see around them using adjectives relating to colours, size, shape, texture and emotion.

## Understanding of the World

Children will look at icicles and/or pictures of icicles and discuss how they are formed. They will experiment with freezing water in differently shaped containers and explore how to release frozen toys by melting blocks of ice in different places in the environment and by using salt. Children will explore materials that reflect the light or glow using torches and explore winter and night time using the Internet to find out information and take photographs of evidence of winter in the environment.

## **Physical Development**

Children will continue practising their writing skills by being encouraged to hold their writing and cutting tools correctly. Please correct this at home too when children are using pencils, pens and scissors. Children will do baking and cooking which will involve rolling, kneading, squeezing small tubes, stirring, mixing and pressing which will develop their fine and gross motor skills. Children will use tweezers and pincer movements to manipulate very small objects and craft materials.

# **CURRICULUM INFORMATION**



<u>RE</u>

Why do Christians believe Jesus is special? In this unit, children will learn that Christians believe that Jesus: loves everyone; is God's son; was God born as a human, (Incarnation;) works miracles including healing people and teaches people to love others.

### Other information

School Library visits will take place on Friday mornings.

Children's reading books will be changed once per week—please read with children daily. This can be a mixture of their own reading book and books that you share to build their language and engagement in the reading and storytelling process. Please evidence children's home learning of key words and letter formation in their 'Home-School Writing Book'

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Children discuss what they need to keep warm and comfortable in winter including clothes and shelter. They will discuss the experiences of characters in the stories and talk about what happens when people do not agree with each other. Children will explore the importance of rules and how to make people feel comfortable when they invite them to a party or to their house. Children will play collaboratively and work together to build houses for different animals.

# Maths

**Focussed learning:** Children will be learning about the numbers 6, 7 and 8. They will explore different ways to make these numbers, working systematically to observe patterns in numbers. Their understanding of 5' is the foundation of their understanding of further numbers to ten. We will look at different ways that these numbers can be represented in relation to the number 5. They will make 6/7/8 in different ways using cubes, Numicon, counters, toys, tally marks etc., as well as recognise the numerals and count sets of objects. This may seem simple, but it is crucial that children are able to use their language to express their understanding of these concepts which are the foundation of all their number learning throughout primary school. Children will explore repeating patterns in different contexts and rehearse oral counting in ones, twos and tens, both forwards and backwards.

To help your child you can: encourage them to speak in full sentences when talking about numbers; ask children to extend their thinking by asking them 'why?'; use correct mathematical vocabulary; observe shapes which have five sides; point out the numbers 6, 7 and 8 in many contexts/challenge children to find the numerals 6, 7, and 8 in many contexts (eg. money, time); show children 6/7/8 objects organised in different arrangements so that they believe that even though they are arranged differently, there is still the same amount present in the set.

# Expressive Arts and Design

Children will experiment with floating and sinking to create collaborative ice pictures and use a range of techniques to recreate a starry sky. Children will compose calm music to soothe an anxious bear and experiment with making pictures using natural materials including ice. Children will build homes for different creatures using a range of construction materials both inside and outside as well as create paintings and drawings of snowy scenes and cut out paper snowflakes and icicles.