

Reception
Spring 1
2025

Walkley Primary School Curriculum Newsletter

'Enjoyment, Achievement and Learning for life...'



Topic: Hot or Not?

The Big Picture

We will start to compare life, the weather and animals in Britain to other places around the World. We will be observing how the weather changes and exploring natural changes such as ice melting into water. Having previously learnt about British wildlife we will compare Africa's wildlife and weather to our own. We will be writing a diary entry about what we did in the holidays as we talk about the past. For our science, we will investigate the best materials to keep us warm, how ice melts and how polar animals are adapted to stay warm.

Key Information and Dates

This half term we welcome Mr Gill as he joins our EYFS team, when Mrs Whittaker goes on maternity leave.

16.1.25 - The Unbeatable Energy African Drumming Workshop

A day of music and dance linked to our topic learning about Africa. A donation to pay towards the workshop will be requested prior to the workshop taking place.

27.1.25 - Forest School

Children will need waterproof boots/wellies and a warm waterproof coat for the whole week. Please beware it maybe muddy & cold.

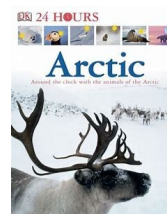
11.2.25 - Safer Internet Day

14.2.25 - Last day of the half term

PE Day—Caterpillars—Thursday
Chameleons—Friday

Communication and language

Class Texts:



Literacy Focus

We will be writing diary entries about our activities during the holidays. Children will also learn about the features of non-fiction texts around winter. Children will continue to engage in daily Read Write inc. sessions. Children will consolidate their knowledge of the Set 1 sounds, including the special friends. They will use these when reading and writing simple words, captions and sentences. Our Green group will be starting Set 2 sounds.

Home Learning

Children will continue to bring home a library book which is a picture book they have chosen to read with you at home. Please ensure it is in their book bag every **Friday** so they can change it in school. They will also have a reading book which is matched to their reading ability and RWI group. Please comment on their reading in their Reading Record each time they read with you at home aiming for a minimum of 3 times a week. In addition, the home learning log weekly tasks will be sent via Tapestry.

Maths	
Number	Children will continue to develop their subitising and recognising numbers to 5. We will also focus on how to partition and compose numbers to 5, 6 and 7. There will be a big focus on learning their numbers bonds to 5. When counting children will learn how to accurately 1-1 count pictures of objects displayed in irregular patterns, actions and concrete objects to 10. We will also encourage children to compare groups of quantities and explain which group has more / fewer / equal amounts.

Understanding the World	
History	Our history will be talking about our past and what we enjoyed in the holidays. We will be modelling talking in full sentences and using the correct tense.
Geography	In geography, we will be comparing and contrasting where we live with Africa and the Polar regions, looking at the different wildlife and weather patterns.
Science	In science, we will learn about how to dress for winter and keep warm. We will be investigating the best materials to keep warm. We will also explore changes from solids into liquids, during ice exploration.

Physical development	In dance, we will develop expressive movement through the topic of 'everyday life'. Children explore space and how to use space safely. They explore traveling actions, shapes and balances. Children choose their own actions in response to a stimulus. They also are given the opportunity to copy, repeat and remember actions. They continue to use counting to help them keep in time with the music.	Personal, social, emotional development	This half term we will be focusing on, how to keep safe. First, we will think about how we keep safe at school including looking after one another, using the thoughts and feelings box and looking after our school equipment. We will also learn about internet safety and who keeps us safe in our community, including road safety.
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Expressive art and design	In Art, we will take inspiration from the artist, 'Edward Tingatinga' looking how to draw and paint African animals using his technique. We will compare Tingatinga's paintings to those of Martin Ridley from last half term and talk about which is our favourite and why. Through role play, small worlds and stories children will learn how to develop narrative and story lines into their play. Through weekly music sessions, children will learn listen to and talk about music, as well as learning many new songs and rhymes. They will also begin to use musical instruments to accompany singing and music.	Religious Education	How do people celebrate? In RE, we will start with talking about the tradition of keeping New Years Resolutions and think about what we could work on over the coming weeks. We will be learning about the traditions of Chinese New Year, learning about how people celebrate in different parts of the world. We will also explore the celebration of 'Nowruz' the Iranian celebration that celebrates Spring as their New Year. We will use a World Map to find Iran and the UK on the map and listen to the story of Nowruz. Children will be encouraged to share their past experiences of how they celebrate different festivals.
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