

What are we learning about this term?

Theme

Through our theme, we will be comparing different places around the world, with a particular focus on Africa and the two Poles. We will investigate which animals are found in these areas and create fact files. We will be going on a walk around Alcester to explore the features of our local area in comparison to African towns. Later in the term, we will be creating poems based on the theme of ice and snow. Our core fiction text will be *Jamela's Dress* by Niki Daly, which will inspire our cross curricular activities and we will be comparing fiction and non-fiction texts.

English

As writers, we will;

- Practise writing sentences with capital letters, finger spaces and full stops.
- Learn rhymes and poems and recite some by heart. We will write our own poems using rhyming words and adjectives.
- Write our own non-fiction booklets about penguins.
- Write our own versions of *Handa's Surprise* using repetitive language.
- Write a newspaper report and letters.

St Nicholas C of E Primary School

Year 1



'Poles Apart'

Mathematics

As mathematicians we will;

- Practise counting, reading and writing numbers up to 20.
- Count forwards and backwards from any given number up to 20 and identify one more and one less.
- Count in multiples of twos, fives and tens.
- Recognise and name common 2D and 3D shapes.
- Identify and represent numbers using objects.
- Recognise symbols for addition and subtraction.
- Work practically to add and subtract.

Science and Foundation subjects

- As scientists, we will discover animals from around the world and sort them into the 5 classes (reptile, mammal, amphibian, fish and bird). We will also begin our study of the changing seasons.
- As geographers, we will use geographical vocabulary to describe parts of the world, including the equator and the continents and seas. We will also explore our locality and make comparisons between Alcester and Africa.
- As designers, we will develop the principles of a balanced diet, learn where different foods come from and create our own fruit kebabs using a wide range of tools and equipment.
- As spiritual thinkers, we will be exploring what Christians believe God is like and looking at parables from the Bible.
- As dancers, we will be learning about African style dancing and we will learn a routine.
- As artists, we will be looking at hot and cold colours to create the Northern Lights.

Class Routines

- Maths homework will be given out fortnightly on a Monday to be handed back in on the following Monday (set/due dates will be at the top of each piece).
- POWer project homework will be given out at the beginning of each term and is due to be handed in by the end of that term (Friday 15th December).
- Every Friday, your child will receive a list of spellings to be learnt by the following Friday as explained in the letter sent out last week - please see your class teacher if you do not have a copy of the letter.
- Books for our online reading scheme 'Bug Club' have been allocated for this term. If your child's login does not work, or you do not know the details, please speak to their class teacher. Your child's Active Learn account will also provide an exciting choice of interactive maths games.
- Both classes will have PE every Monday. Please ensure your child's indoor PE kit remains in school during term time.
- PPA will be on a Wednesday afternoon for which your child will need to bring in an outdoor games kit (trainers, socks (if wearing tights), blue or black shorts/tracksuit bottoms, white t-shirt, and a navy or black sweatshirt as it gets cooler).
- Swimming will take place within PPA sessions - further information about when your child will need their kit will be sent out in advance.
- Information about the school's 'Total Recall' maths facts scheme can be found in the back of your child's planner. These skills will be checked throughout the year, so please support your child in learning their number facts.
- Forest School for year 1 will take place in the summer term to support our topic and science work.
- Your child will continue to read twice a week with their teacher/teaching assistant and books will be sent home. The focus for reading in year 1 is decoding the words (applying phonics skills) as well as discussing the events, characters, settings and making predictions about what might happen next. Please support your child by reading with them for at least 5 minutes a day (when possible).

We have been really impressed by how well the children are settling into Year 1. If you have any queries please speak with your child's teacher.

Thank you for your support, Mr Kolb & Mrs Kalaker.



**Please have a
water bottle in
school every day!**