

Reception  
Spring 1

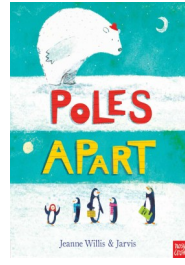
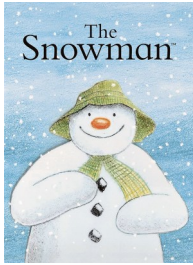
Into the freeze!



# Things we may talk about: Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day), hot and cold places, freezing and melting



## Key books this term:



Rain	Wet, damp, droplet, soggy, shower.
Wind	Rustle, flutter, flap, whistling, howling, gale, breeze
Snow	Cold, freeze, frozen, icy, snowflake, soft, hard.
Fog	Dark, dull, mist.

How is the weather different in winter? How do you know it is winter? What can you see? What clothes would you need?



## Key Vocabulary

melting, freezing, solid, liquid, water, hot, cold, temperature, winter, weather, continent, map, world, South Pole, Arctic, habitat, environment, country, UK, England, celebrations, families

The Snowman, Lost and Found, Fly Freddie Fly, Poles Apart.

### Story themes:

- Weather
- South Pole
- Penguins (and non-fiction)



Can you make ice at home? Put a cup of water in a cupboard and one in the freezer; which will turn into ice? Why?

Ice! The ice in 'Jack Frost' begins to melt. Let's explore this!



The warmer the ice gets, the quicker it melts and turns back into liquid water.



Liquid water can freeze when it is really cold, turning it into solid ice.

melt melting



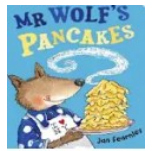
freeze ice

When the ice warms up it begins to melt.



## Pancake Day 2026 — 17th Feb

To celebrate Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day), we will be making pancakes at school and reading the story of Mr Wolf's Pancakes.



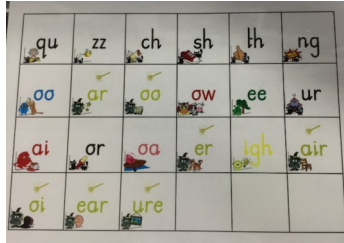
We will discuss why we have Pancake Day and what it means to give something up for Lent.

Will you be making pancakes at home? What ingredients would you need? What steps would you follow?



## Literacy: Reading

We will be revising the phonemes (sounds) for each letter of the alphabet, linking each phoneme to its letter (grapheme). We will also learn tricky words from Phase 2 and 3. We will be starting to learn Phase 3 digraphs and looking at how Monster Phonics links the colours of these phonemes to the sounds that the different Monsters make.

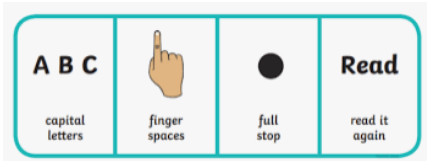


At home, when reading with your child, ask them to tell you the phonemes they hear in a word. This will help them to be able to practise blending and segmenting.



## Literacy: Writing

We will be continuing to use our phoneme fingers to help us segment all of the phonemes (sounds) that we can hear in a word and spell them. We will be learning how to write whole words using the phonemes we have been taught. We will practise writing captions and will learn the components that we need to construct a sentence. For example: capital letters, finger spaces and full stops.



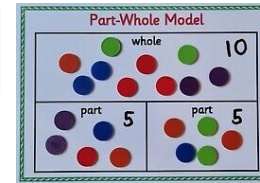
## Maths

We will learn about mass and capacity, the composition of numbers up to 10, and will be introducing the concepts of addition and subtraction.



We will:

- Find one more and one less
- Show numbers in different ways
- Look at how numbers can be split into parts
- Add numbers together within 5 and 10



Can you count and add together objects from your home? Put your socks/toys/books/building blocks into piles and practise adding them together.

Can you find things which are heavy and things which are light?



## PSED

Children will be encouraged to:

- Express their needs and feelings in an appropriate way
- Understand that their actions have consequences, and how this can affect others
- Think about how to be a good friend and understand the importance of helping others and taking turns

## Expressive Arts and Design

### Sculpture, painting and collage

- We will be drawing and painting different animals from cold climates
- We will learn how to weave using different materials to create pieces of winter art
- We will be making masks and lanterns for Chinese New Year

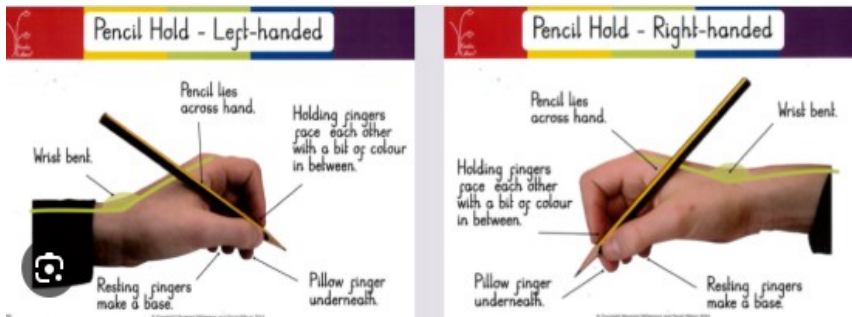


## Physical Development:

### Gross and Fine Motor Skills

- Funky Fingers - threading, cutting, using tweezers, tearing and scrunching paper
- Using the 'three friends hold' (holding a pencil correctly)
- Using 'animal positions' to help make our bodies stronger.

P.E - We will be learning about gymnastics and dance this term. We will learn different ways of balancing, jumping and moving using apparatus. We will also be creating a Lunar New Year dragon dance.



# Homework

**Reading** — When your child is ready, we will send home a reading book. We will read this book three times in school before sending it home. Books will be changed every Friday. Library sessions will continue after the half term break.

**Optional tasks** — We have included some tasks/things you may like to talk to your child about at home to support our learning in school. Please look for the house symbol.



# Key Information

Please can we ask that:

- Book bags come into school every day
- All water bottles are named and contain water only
- All hair accessories are school colours (purple, green, white or black)
- All trousers, skirts and dresses are black
- All uniform and coats are named
- Order your child's school lunch at home as early as possible (Relish)
- Provide a change of clothes if you feel this is necessary

PE — Children come to school in PE kit. Please can all jewellery be removed beforehand.

## Seesaw

We would love to see how the children have been sharing learning from school with you at home. Please feel free to post any photographs or upload comments about any things they have been up to or places they have visited!

# Enrichment

## Trips and Visitors

Please find a list of anticipated trips and visits to enrich your child's learning. These are not all finalised and will be dependent on availability nearer the time. We are acutely aware of the increasing financial pressures on families; therefore, we want to provide you with an overview of potential costs for the year. When trips are organised, you will be provided with a clear financial breakdown of the subsequent costs.

We have several trips and visitors scheduled for the year, as follows:

Spring 2 — World Book Day and virtual activities (no cost);

Visit to school Environmental Area (no cost). Visit to school by 'Little City' (approx. £3.50)

Summer 2 — Trip to the farm (cost TBC) and End of Year Water Day in school (no cost)