

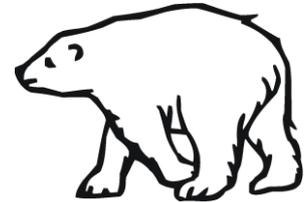
Newsletter

12th February 2021



Mrs Sweeney and Mrs Byrne's Polar Bear Challenge – Speak Out and Stay Safe!

Being in a lockdown has been very tricky for lots of us, both grown up and children. There have been many challenges and changes to our normal routines, which have made lots of us feel a little bit confused. With our half-term break fast approaching, we felt it was a good time to remind ourselves, and others, of who we can turn to if we are worried or need a little extra support. There are lots of people in your home, school and wider community who are there to help you in times of need. I would like you to spend some time watching this NSPCC clip:



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nwz43KoadhE&safe=true>

Then have a chat with a trusted grown-up about how you are feeling and what it means to be safe. Your grown-ups will be able to offer some support if you are worried or anxious. Remember, there are grown-ups at school who are also be happy to have a chat with you if you need it, as well as the organisations mentioned in the video clip.

During the half-term week, we would like you to design a 'Speak Out, Stay Safe' leaflet (KS2) or poster (KS1). The key three themes of your design should be:

Speak out and be heard

What it means to be safe

Get help when you need it

You could include the kind of worries children are facing at the moment, and who they can talk to if they need some help. Including names, phone numbers or websites would be a great idea too. Everybody who enters will have their name added onto a Wheelock Polar Bear! The winning posters and leaflet will be used to make a booklet which will be shared with all of the children at Wheelock. Mrs Sweeney is also hoping to spend half term making a crochet polar bear to give to one extra special entry – let's see if it ends up looking anything like a polar bear though!!



Good luck with your entry, the closing date for designs is **Monday 22nd February.**

Class News

Penguins and Puffins

For the last week of this Half Term we have been finding out all about the Chinese New Year. This year it is the Year of the Ox, but we have worked out that our reception children are either goats or monkeys!

In Literacy we have listened to the story of how the animals had a race to determine the order of the Chinese Zodiac and we have been using our phonics to label the animals. We have been very creative this week - making Chinese lanterns and a Chinese New Year drum. Well done everyone. In school we even tasted Chinese noodles that we cooked on the campfire.

In maths this week we have explored positional language. We have had fun playing hide and seek and talking about where people and objects were hiding. We have worked hard using words like in, on, under, next to, above, below to describe position. We have also had a go at some 'coding' and enjoyed the Minecraft style game. On Friday we finished the week with a 'Cha-Cha slide' dance in the morning and a 'Hot Chocolate' zoom in the afternoon.

Thank you to all our parents for their amazing support this half term. Tapestry has been so busy - full of the fantastic home learning you have all been doing. The children in school have worked really hard too and we hope it won't be too long before we are all back together. Have a happy and safe Half Term break.



Owls, Woodpeckers and Robins

Huge well done to Robins, Woodpeckers and Owls on amazing first half term of 2021. Whether you have been learning in school or at home, you and your adults have worked incredibly hard and must very proud of yourselves.

This week has been all about superheroes! We started the week retelling the story of Supertato with a breaking news report. They were really funny, and I was impressed with how clear and confident our news reporters are. After that, we created some bright, eye-catching wanted posters for the Evil Pea. Some children read their books from the Supertato collection to the class, and it was brilliant to hear such expressive and fluent reading. From there, the children created new characters for a Super veggie story. They changed the main hero or villain and created a character profile to describe what they looked like and what super/evil powers they might have. We created a story map to plan out the events of the story and used it as a helpful aid to write up are new Super veggie tale. Continuing with the Superhero theme, the children thought about who they thought

were heroes to them, this might have been a family member or friend, or even a celebrity they looked up to for their heroic actions.

Sandpipers, Swans and Kingfishers

Great work this week Waterbirds. You have all worked very hard with your home learning and we have been very impressed. Thank you to all the children who have accessed TT Rock Stars and Spelling Shed.

This week in Literacy, you have continued to read 'How to skin a bear.' You have used some amazing adjectives to describe a dream; changed adjectives to adverbs; used time conjunctions and found different word families. We have loved reading all of the great writing you have done. We have also been impressed by your neat handwriting. It is clear that some of you have been practising a lot.

In Maths, we have looked at telling the time. You have focused on half past, o'clock, quarter past, quarter to and 5 minute intervals. You have also made your own clocks. Well done for working hard and make sure you keep telling the time throughout your normal day.

Continuing with our Stone Age topic, you have designed and made jewellery and thought about undesirable jobs they would have had to do. We have been impressed by the children who have already completed the Individuality competition and can't wait to see what you have created. Well done Waterbirds. Have a well-deserved half term!

Eagles, Hawks and Kestrels

This week, Years 5 and 6 have been thinking creatively in a range of literacy writing activities. In maths, we have worked on mental arithmetic, focusing on decimals. The children have worked through a Science unit on 'Properties of Materials' and have learnt about a range of properties, including conductors and insulators; reversible and irreversible materials; and whether a material is soluble or insoluble. The children have also spent their week reading their own book, ready to do a book review to share with their peers on our Padlet. The children have enjoyed their last day before half term making Valentine's cards and making pancakes. We would like to say how blown away we are at the year 5 and 6's commitment and attitude towards their remote learning this term. We are very proud of you. Have a fantastic break.

Parent and Staff Games Night

It was lovely to see those of you who were able to join us for last night's parent and staff games night. Huge thanks to Miss Warburton for organising and running the quiz. After half term it is going to be an At-Home Pub Quiz with Mrs Williams.

If you are able to join us, we'd love to see you at 7.30pm on Thursday 25th February using the link:

Topic: Parent and Staff Games Night

Time: Feb 4, 2021 07:30 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://tflfp.zoom.us/j/96289879646?pwd=ZEhwd2xMUTJmNzVYOUJRd0ZBblpvZz09>

Meeting ID: 962 8987 9646

Passcode: 593918

Praise Winners

Class	Name	Animal	Reason
Penguins	Daniel		For speaking confidently on Zoom and doing some great home learning
Puffins	Eleanor		For being really helpful in school to all her friends.
Robins	Phoebe		For super reading and taking her time to produce beautiful work.
Owls	Emily		For showing maturity, a super attitude to learning and beautiful handwriting.
Woodpeckers	Finley		For his great news report and consistently working hard.
Kingfishers	Daniel		For his hard work on learning to tell the time this week.
Swans	Dylan		For regularly accessing TT Rock Stars and encouraging the rest of Swans to do the same.
	Megan		For working respectfully with a different adult on her home learning.
Sandpipers	Pippa		For determination and hard work with all of her work especially her spellings.
	Oskar		Fantastic creative work especially when making his Stone Age jewellery.
Kestrels	Lily-May		For taking up a new fitness challenge.
Hawks	Lucas		For fantastic descriptive language and creative ideas in Literacy.
Eagles	Jacob		For truly symbolising what it is to be an elephant.