

# Kerr Mackie Primary School Reception

Term: Spring

Our Project Theme: Snow and Ice



What we have been doing in Reception this half term....

## Personal, Social & Emotional

A key part of our learning this term we have been encouraging children to talk positively about themselves. During carpet sessions we have been thinking about everything we are good at and all the different things we can do. We have also been talking about being unique and what this means.

During our Circle Time sessions we have been discussing how to negotiate with their peers in social situations and the importance of turn-taking and sharing. We have been focussing on tidying up skills and ensuring we respect our classroom, please encourage your children to tidy up at home so this can reflect our message in school.



## Communication, Language & Literacy

In literacy this half term the children have been learning to re-tell the stories, 'Lost and found' and 'The Polar Bear and the Snow Cloud'. We have thoroughly enjoyed creating story maps for these texts and for their own invented stories also.

We have been focussing on following instructions with two parts, for example, "go to the toilet and then collect your dinner band". We have recently begun looking at following stories without pictures or props and are encouraging children to re-tell the stories themselves.

Within the curriculum is states children need to understand humour, which includes nonsense rhymes and jokes. This is something we will be focussing on for the rest of the half term, we will be particularly looking about what is appropriate humour and how to tell jokes.

In phonics we have been teaching digraphs, two letters making one sound and we will be teaching trigraphs, three letters making one sound. We have been learning to spell our tricky words, which are in the back of the orange book we sent home, these need to be spelt correctly when written and read on sight. We will be expecting children to use these within their writing, please encourage children to write captions and sentences by sounding out the words and continuing to repeat the word or sentence to check it makes sense.

To ensure we read with every child in school it is important book bags are returned every week and no later than **Wednesday**.



## Mathematics

Much of our learning in maths is through songs, rhymes and games. This half term in Number we will be learning to:

- Add and subtract single digit numbers and introducing number sentences
- Count random objects up to 15 accurately.
- Counting objects 1:1 to 20.
- Use everyday language to talk about money, time and weight.
- Ordering numerals beyond 10 up to 20.
- Naming 3D shapes and their properties.
- One more and one less than a given number.

There will also be lots of opportunities to make and explore pattern and shape. Please encourage your child to find 2D and 3D shapes in the environment such as square windows, circle clocks and cuboid cereal boxes etc.

## Understanding the World

This half term we have been investigating the season winter and how this differs to the other season. We have been talking about the differences in weather and why this occurs. Towards the end of the half term we will begin exploring global warming and the affect this has on the Polar Regions.



The children should have now all received Mathletics and Reading Eggs logins, please encourage children to access these at home independently as it will continue to develop their Technology skills.

### Expressive Arts and Design

During this half term we have been exploring the different textures of materials and how this can add affect to artwork. We have been looking at how to create different colours by colour mixing. Later in the half term we will be sketching out and designing their own design for protest posters which is linked to our topic this half term.



### Physical Development

This half term we have been investigating how to keep healthy and stay fit. Not only have we explored how we need to exercise but we also looked at how we need to eat a healthy diet and what this would look like.

We are continuing to encourage children to dress and undress independently, this including buttons, zips and laces.

During P.E. sessions we have been developing our ball skills, learning to throw and catch both to themselves and to a partner. Later in the half term we will begin exploring dance and how to move rhythmically to different music.

As part of physical development we continue to develop our fine motor skills, these will help with letter formation. This half term we have been building igloos out of sugar cubes using tweezers.

### Reception Routines

Doors open at 8:45am, please aim to have your child in class by this time as every morning they will have a morning task to complete. Parents are welcome to stay for the morning task however please encourage your child to complete it independently. The doors will be closed at 9:00am and we politely ask that all parents have left the classroom by this time so we can begin our teaching sessions. At the end of the day doors are opened at 3:15pm and all children must be picked up promptly. After 3:30pm children will be taken to the office and can be collected from there.

#### **You can help by:**

- Please write your child's name in every part of their uniform including their shoes.
- Talking to your child about all the things they are good at and what makes them unique.
- Continuing to encourage your child to independently dress themselves, including practising fastening buttons and zips.

#### **Home learning:**

- Practise recognising and writing tricky words.
- Practise recognising numerals 10 to 20.
- Looking at clocks and money and modelling language related to this.
- When spelling words with your child, model and encourage them to say the correct letter sound. Whenever possible encourage your child to write captions and sentences.
- Enjoy sharing story books with your child and encourage a love for reading.

#### **Helpful links;**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eCjJYB07aSU> – Jolly phonics songs phase 2 and phase 3 in the correct order as they have been taught.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TvMyssfAUx0> – Tricky words song to help your child recognise and spell them correctly.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dFzAU3u06Ps> – Coin song to help your child recognise UK coins.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vq3cDj3Uj3I> – Begin to help your child count in 2's, 5's and 10's with this song.

#### **PE:**

P.E. will continue to be on a Wednesday morning for both classes. Please ensure your child has the correct P.E. kit in school and it is all labelled.

#### **Food and drink:**

Please ensure your child has a bottle of water in school every day. A healthy snack will be provided for your child in school.

Finally, we would to thank all parents/carers for your help and continued support throughout this half term so far in Reception. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask a member of the Reception team, we are always around at the beginning or end of the day.

Teachers: Miss K. Brown and Miss A. Fox

Support teachers: Mrs. M. Shillito and Miss V. Smithson