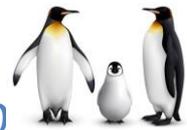




The Big Freeze!! Spring Term 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back to the second term! It has been lovely to hear all of the children's Christmas holiday news and see them settle back into the first week of school with their friends. I am sure they are tired after the first week of getting back to routine.

Lining up

From Monday 20th January, the children will be lining up on the playground in the mornings when the bell rings, saying goodbye to their adults and walking in independently like the children in the rest of the school. As we approach the 'half way' point in the academic year, this a great time to help them feel more independent and start the day ready to learn. Perhaps use this coming week (beginning 13th) to encourage them to hang up their own coats, place their book bags in the boxes, self register etc on their own and by the end of the week say goodbye at the classroom door to help them prepare. We will of course be here to help any that may need a helping hand or gentle encouragement.

Reading books

These will now be changed weekly on a Friday and children will bring home 3 books to read with you over the week. Regular reading practise at home is so important and don't limit yourself to just the school reading books, encourage your child to 'sound out words' wherever you are or whatever you are reading. Please ensure bookbags with their reading books come into school with them everyday as we plan to listen to every child 2/3 times a week.

Phonics/Literacy Workshop

We look forward to seeing you at our reading and writing workshop on Tuesday 21st January at 2.15. The children will be enjoying activities with members of staff while we meet to share ideas and information about how we teach phonics, reading and writing in school as well as a few ideas for you to use at home.

Resources – can you help?!

We are constantly looking to build on our collection of resources and particularly our 'small world' play. If you have any of the following that are no longer needed we would be very appreciative:

- farm animals, vehicles and buildings
- dinosaurs
- wild animals, arctic and safari in particular
- Tea sets, kitchen equipment and play food
- Easels
- Children's gardening equipment
- Globes

Topic

We absolutely LOVE our Big Freeze topic. You will be amazed at the information that the children are able to remember and offer about life in a very cold part of the world. We will be needed lots of kitchen roll tubes over the next few weeks so please save any and bring them in! The children will reveal more when we move on to learning about Antarctica!

Wellies

January and February can be very wet (and cold!) but we still operate on an indoor/outdoor approach to learning. It is useful for the children to have a pair of wellies and spare socks/tights at school. You may leave any wellies at school under their peg should you wish to. Please make sure all your child's items of clothing are named so they can find their owner if lost!

Thank you for your continued support. Fingers crossed for some real ice and snow to make our topic even more authentic!

The Cherry Team

