

Year 2 Newsletter

Learning Challenge: Ice Age and the wonders of Antarctica
Ice Age 5...Could this happen to us?

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year!

Welcome back to the Spring Term!

I trust you all had a lovely holiday and are feeling refreshed for the New Year. This term our Learning Challenge focus is on Antarctica. We will be focussing on gaining a deeper understanding about this island, such as where it is located in the world, why it is so cold and the lifecycle of a penguin. I encourage you to take your child to your local library to research and/or issue some books on Antarctica. This is a great way to supplement the learning your child is doing in the classroom.

God Bless,
Miss Shamy

Days to Remember

Class Assembly	12 th March, 9:15am
Visits	T.B.C.
Half term	18 th – 22 nd February
Learning Challenge Event	Friday 15 th February



ST. JOSEPH'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL
'LEARNING TO LOVE, LOVING TO LEARN'

Class Teacher: Miss Shamy

Class Support: Miss Lisa and Miss Jeannet

Special Notices

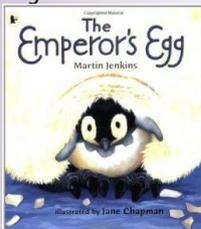
Please ensure your child is at school on time and in the correct school uniform. Lessons begin at 9am and children who are regularly coming in late are missing essential learning every day.

Values:

January: Hope
February: Appreciation

Learning Challenge:

In this learning challenge we will be investigating questions such as where exactly Antarctica is, who lives there and why it is so cold and icy there. In English we will read together the book 'The Emperor's Egg', which will help us to understand the role of the Emperor Penguins, the biggest penguins in the world. We will use other non-fiction texts to develop our understanding.



In History we will be researching about the lives of significant individuals who have contributed to national / international achievement (i.e. Captain Scott). Our Science focus will be on understanding the basic needs for human survival, for example surviving in Antarctica.

Pupil Zone



Please make sure your child is regularly using the Pupil Zone area of the school website with access to plenty fun games to help their learning as well as access to homework!

Quick tips to support learning at home

- Helping your child to **complete and return all homework.**
- Encouraging your child to **learn their times tables to develop automaticity.**
- Read, question and discuss books/vocabulary with your child for at least **20 mins every night.**
- Reading and discussing the "Wednesday Word" every week with your child.
- If your child wants to play on the computer/ipad direct them to the Pupil Zone on our website!

Growth Mindset

Why do some people achieve their potential while others do not?

In school we have been focussing on the importance of our mindset. Our mental attitude can determine how we interpret and respond to situations. We tell the children the brain is like a muscle that gets stronger and better the more it is exercised. This sends the message that intelligence can be learnt, and that we are not born 'intelligent'. But with hard work and persistence our brain makes new connections and we become smarter.

We have been focussing on the power of the word 'yet'. When children find their work challenging their response is 'I can't do it yet!', knowing that if they keep trying, eventually, they will be able to feel that sense of achievement.