



**WELFORD-ON-AVON PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**NURSERY NEWS**  
 24<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,






This week we have begun to learn about cold places further afield; the Polar Lands. We have looked at a globe, maps and Google Earth, discussing where the Arctic and Antarctic can be found.





Using effective questioning we have been able to harvest the knowledge of individuals to ascertain what they already know about these areas. From this, we can build upon previous knowledge and allow children to gain a deeper understanding of the wider world around them. We have used various resources to support learning, particularly books (fact and fiction), pictures and video. We have explored the Arctic with Peter the polar bear and Eb and Eppa the aliens, who visit the Arctic in their space ship. We were able to see pictures of the landscapes as well as meeting other animals that can be found living there.

The children have been introduced to lots of new vocabulary this week, which we have regularly revisited and will continue to do so in the coming weeks. Next week we will be discovering the Antarctic before making comparisons between both Polar Regions and here in Welford-on-Avon.

**Phonics**

We have revisited and reviewed previous letter sounds and introduced the letter 'g' as follows. You can support your child at home, by sharing the support material below.

Grapheme and mnemonic		Pronunciation phrase	Formation phrase	Multisensory action
	g	Give me a big smile that shows your teeth; press the middle of your tongue to the top and back of your mouth; push your tongue down and forward to make the sound <b>g</b>	Round the goat's face, up to his ear; down and curl under his chin.	Goats beard – using thumb and first finger, make action of pointy beard from the chin
	d	Put your tongue to the top and front of your mouth and make a quick <b>d</b> sound <b>d d d</b>	Round the duck's body, up to its head and down to its feet.	Ducks beak – make action of beak opening and closing
	m	Put your lips together and make the <b>mmmm</b> sound <b>mmmm</b>	Down, up and over the mouse's ears, then add a flick on the nose.	Using fingers from both hands, make small stroking movements on cheeks
	n	Open your lips a bit, put your tongue behind your teeth and make the <b>nnnn</b> sound <b>nnnn</b>	Down the stick, up and over the net.	Pretend to hold a net and scoop it across the body
	i	Pull your lips back and make the 'i' sound at the back of your mouth <b>i i i</b>	Down the iguana's body, then draw a dot [on the leaf] at the top.	Move head slowly from side to side

	p	Bring your lips together and push them open and say <b>p p p</b>	Down the penguin's back, up and round its head.	Arms each side of body with hands sticking out, pretend to waddle like a penguin
	t	Open your lips; put the tip of your tongue behind your teeth and press <b>t t t</b>	From the tiger's nose to its tail, then follow the stripe across the tiger.	Make a claw with one hand and motion scratching
	a	Open your mouth wide and make the 'a' sound at the back of your mouth <b>a a a</b>	Around the astronaut's helmet, and down into space.	Use two hands to put on a helmet
	s	Show your teeth and let the <b>s</b> hiss out <b>ssssss</b> <b>ssssss</b>	Under the snake's chin, slide down and round its tail.	Motion the hand to look like a snake moving

### Mathematics

This week we have been exploring triangles and circles in different sizes and orientations. We have been talking about the properties of both shapes, using associated vocabulary such as sides, corners, straight, curved. It also meant that we were revisiting and recapping the number three.

### Forest school

We had great fun collecting sticks, remembering the Forest School rule, no longer than your arm! We then arranged them to create our own winter trees.

### Creative Area

In the creative area we have begun our winter process art where the children have used cold colour paint and objects to print with onto paper. Once dry, they have learnt how to use PVA glue using a brush, to add a variety of different materials such as wools, bottle tops, silver foil, polystyrene shapes etc.

Continuing with our Polar Lands theme, everyone has been learning how to tear paper into smaller pieces, to represent the ice flow in the arctic waters. Tearing is not an easy task when you are three and four! This will then be the base for our polar bears next week!

### General reminders:

- As part of our British Values, this term we will continue to develop self-help skills and table manners within the setting. You can help at home by encouraging your child to become more independent with taking off and putting on their shoes and coat. These important skills will also help them get ready to come to school and when going to forest school. At lunch times we are supporting the children to develop skills for sitting at the table together and using a knife and fork correctly. Basic table manners are important everyday life skills that create the right social interaction etiquettes that are likely to help them throughout their lives.
- Please name and add a big loop on **All** jumpers, cardigans and coats. **There are many items of clothing that have no loops or name.** A piece of ribbon can be threaded and tied through the clothing label and these will support your child to be independent in hanging up their own coat. Hats, scarves and gloves also need to be named.

- Please ensure longer hair is tied back or in ponytails. This not only allows your child to be able to see more clearly to learn, but it keeps them safe.

### **Illness**

It is important that we all follow the correct guidelines for illness.

- If your child has a temperature they should not be in school.
- If your child has needed Calpol or similar during the night or before school, they are not fit to attend. It merely suppresses the symptoms and spreads quickly to others.
- If your child is ill, telephone the school office and give a brief message about why they will not be attending. This is particularly important.
- If your child has sickness or diarrhoea, they must not return until 48hours after the last bout of illness.

If you have any queries about any of the above, please do not hesitate to come and ask.

Have a lovely weekend,

Kind regards,  
Mrs M Sims  
Nursery Class teacher