

Home Learning

Children will continue to bring home new sounds to practise at home, as well as reading books with decodable words using sounds we have learnt in school. Please read with your child as often as possible - ideally everyday. I cannot emphasise enough the difference it makes in a child's progress with reading. Please continue to practise the sounds and tricky words in their phoneme pouches. Encourage your children to write at home, putting together sounds to make words both orally and written. You can support the development of fine motor skills to help with their handwriting by giving them opportunities to play with playdough, use buttons, colour and thread beads or pasta tubes onto string. term.. Please continue to practise counting and subitising amounts.

Dates for the diary

PE day - Friday. Children come in PE kit.

Open Afternoon-31/01/24

Term 3 ends-09/02/24

Maple Class

Spring Term 3

Any questions please email: maple@penshurst.kent.sch.uk

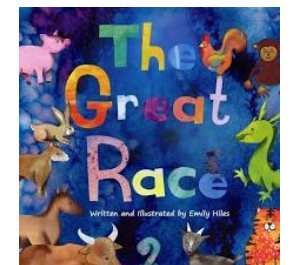
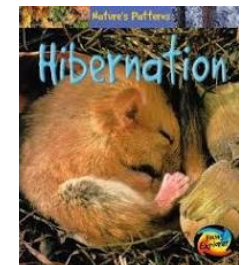
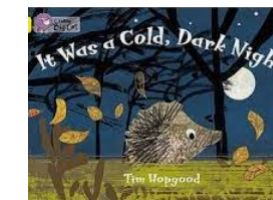
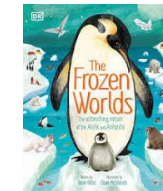
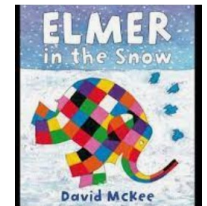
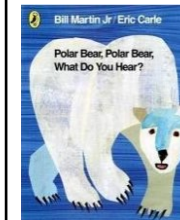
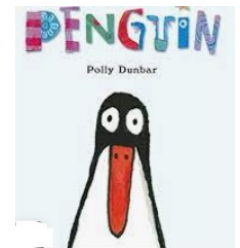
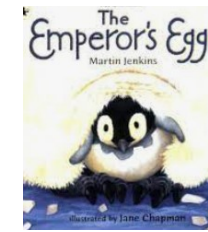
Literacy

In phonics we will continue to move through Phase 3. During Phase 3 phonics, the children will learn about the remaining graphemes and digraphs (two letters that make one sound) as well as a series of new sounds. They will also learn a series of new tricky words and the names of each of the letters of the alphabet as well as practising blending and segmenting words and captions. We will continue to use drawing club to develop our fine motor skills and pencil control, as well as to spark discussion and engagement with characters, settings and plots and encourage us to adapt and expand on stories we have enjoyed. We will think about new vocabulary and try to use it in our discussions and retellings. We will practise writing words and captions to label our drawings and begin to think about the conventions of sentence writing, including using a capital letter, finger spaces and full stops.

Mathematics

In the Early Years we aim to support children to explore counting, money, shape, patterns, objects, position, sequence and other core foundations of numeracy development in a natural, supportive way through the continuous provision in our setting, both indoors and outdoors. Adults will use games, songs and other learning methods to help children explore numbers and discover how fascinating they can be. We will introduce skills like counting, shape recognition and simple addition and subtraction to develop a solid understanding of counting and numbers and develop their numeracy skills in an engaging and positive way.

Key Texts this Term



Understanding the World

This term we will observe and discuss the features of Winter, comparing it to what we know of Autumn and Spring. We will talk about the animals we see in the winter and where the others have gone, introducing hibernation - what it is, why it happens and who does it? We will compare our environment it to other places in the world, focusing on extending our vocabulary. We will talk about the Polar regions and learn about the animals that live in cold climates. We will use non-fiction books to support children in exploring different parts of the world and different habitats.

PSED

We will re-establish class expectations after the Christmas holidays. Adults will support children in widening their friendship circles. We will also focus on children following the directions of adults and begin to introduce more adult directed activities throughout the week. Our focus value will be compassion - we will relate this to the stories being read in class and spot children showing this value throughout the day. We will talk about how we can spot what someone is feeling, and whether they need to be shown compassion - what affect will that have on that person's emotions?

RE

We will learn about stories from the New Testament and think about what we can learn from them..

PE

Children will explore the fundamentals of PE, learning to move safely and with control, stopping and changing direction when running, and developing hopping, jumping and skipping.



Expressive Art and Design

We will use papier mache to create shelters for hibernating animals. The children will be given opportunities to explore different textiles and engage with plaiting, weaving and sewing. We will paint arctic inspired and winter landscapes, and painting polar animals on to our landscapes. Children will be given opportunities to express themselves through art, junk modelling, design and building, using the materials available daily in our setting. They will be encouraged to review their work and discuss how successful their creations were and whether they would improve or change anything.

Communication & Language

We will ask the children questions about things that interest them, and encourage them to be curious and ask questions, too. We will use talk partners to encourage children to listen to what each other is saying. Children are all encouraged to answer questions during whole class teaching and are given thinking time to formulate an answer rather than being asked to raise their hands. We will continue to focus on introducing new vocabulary and modelling its use throughout the day, linked to stories and non-fiction books we are sharing in class. Children will be encouraged to reflect on books they have been read and to share their opinions.

Physical Development

Daily Dough disco will continue, focusing on modelling the correct technique to develop their strength and skills. Drawing Club will allow us to encourage the children to look closely at specific elements of their drawing, as well as forming letters to label and caption their work. Children will have opportunities to use one handed tools - scissors, pens, tweezers. We will invite them to engage in activities where they have the opportunity to practise these skills. We will be making large scale models and artwork using a range of fine motor skills.