



Reception Newsletter- Week beginning: 2.02.26

Term 3 topic- What happens in our world?  
Our story of the week- The Polar Bear and the Snow Cloud



What an exciting week we have had! Although it has been wet this week, we didn't feel like we were in the Arctic or the Antarctic!

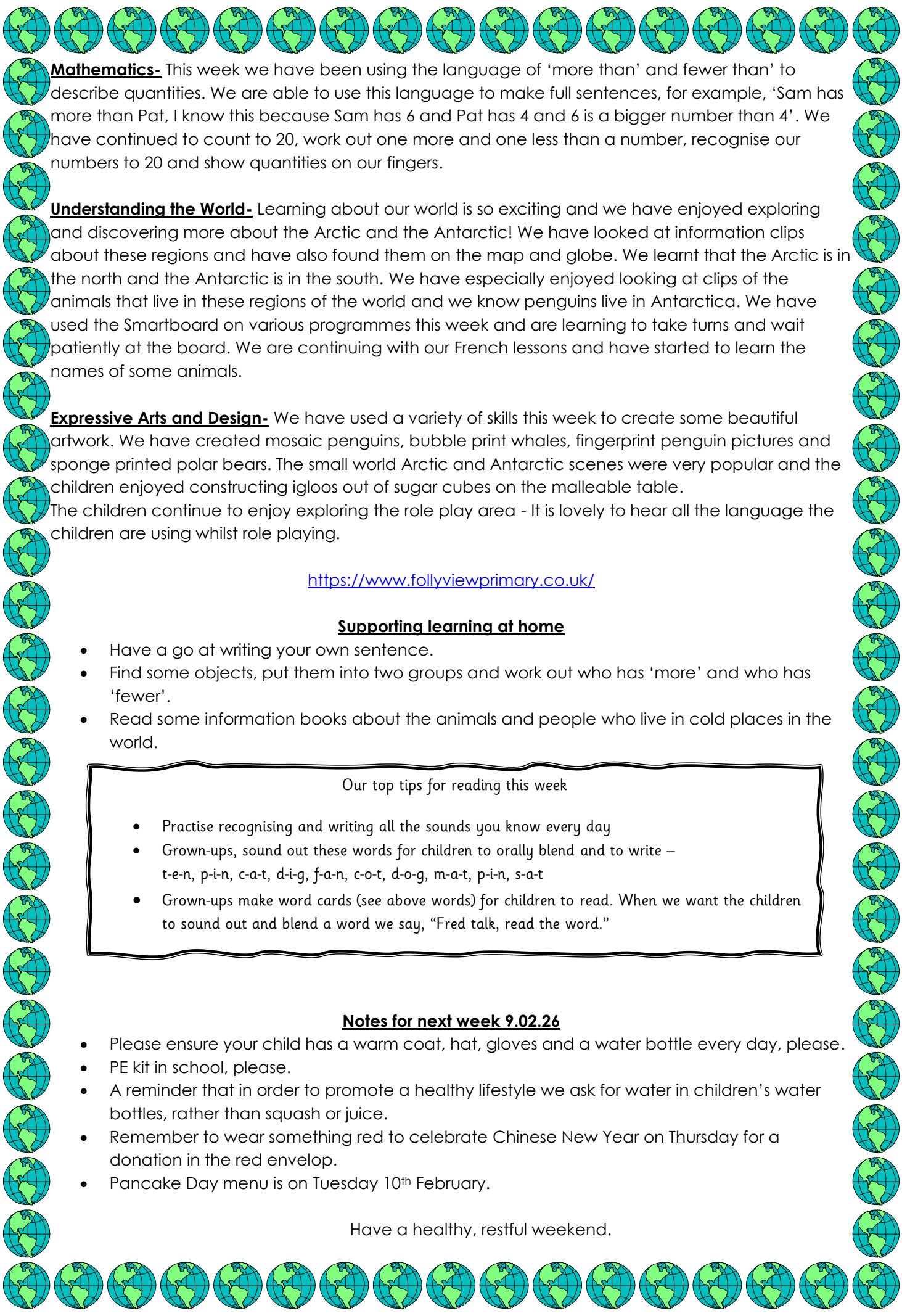
**Personal, Social and Emotional Development-** As always, we look out for each other and work as a team. This week in 'Jigsaw' we continued with our 'Dreams and Goals' theme. After a Calm me time with the chime we thought about what jobs we knew about and then looked into the future and talked about what job we would like to have and why. We are trying hard to solve minor disagreements with our friends using our words, before coming to an adult for help. We are also remembering to use our kind hands and words.

**Communication and Language-** We are becoming more confident in speaking in front of our friends and our teachers – sometimes our teachers find it hard to stop us! We are also practising being good listeners as it is very important to listen to what others say too. We love to hear all about what the weekend bears have been up to. This week we have been finding out about the Arctic, the Antarctic and cold climates and have learnt lots of new words; iceberg, icicle, camouflage. Ask us why the polar bear and penguin are not friends, or why many of the animals are white and fluffy.

**Physical Development-** We enjoy playing with various sports equipment when outside and we particularly enjoy creating different obstacle courses to test our balancing skills. We are developing our turn taking skills and we are able to move slowly and carefully to stay safe. Using a variety of construction materials, drawing and writing, building igloos with sugar cubes and using scissors have all helped to develop our fine motors skills this week. These activities all help us to develop our muscles and strengthen our hands and fingers ready for writing. In PE we have been playing games and learning to be good sportsmen and women. We have been practising moving safely around the space, galloping, hopping and jumping. We have also been rolling tennis balls along the floor and controlling them with our fingers and feet.

**Literacy-** We have really enjoyed reading the book 'The Polar Bear and the Snow Cloud.' Phonics in our different groups is going well and the teachers will be assessing how much progress the children have made next week. We are using our phonics every week to write a sentence. We begin by pinching the words in the sentence onto our fingers and then say each word slowly and clearly. We then use our Fred fingers and pinch the sounds we can hear in each word onto our fingers before writing the word. We also know that each word is separated by a finger space and that we need a capital letter at the beginning of the sentence and a full stop at the end. When you are helping your child practise writing at home, encourage them to write down the sounds they hear, using the method above and then you can write it in full underneath and tick the sounds they have heard. We continue to enjoy writing in our writing areas, in the role play areas and using clip boards, post its, notepads and whiteboards. We enjoy practising our letter formation and we have also written Arctic word cards and labels.

We love to read stories as well information books and often use our book areas to share stories with our friends. Remember, **'We learn to read so we can read to learn!'**



**Mathematics-** This week we have been using the language of 'more than' and fewer than' to describe quantities. We are able to use this language to make full sentences, for example, 'Sam has more than Pat, I know this because Sam has 6 and Pat has 4 and 6 is a bigger number than 4'. We have continued to count to 20, work out one more and one less than a number, recognise our numbers to 20 and show quantities on our fingers.

**Understanding the World-** Learning about our world is so exciting and we have enjoyed exploring and discovering more about the Arctic and the Antarctic! We have looked at information clips about these regions and have also found them on the map and globe. We learnt that the Arctic is in the north and the Antarctic is in the south. We have especially enjoyed looking at clips of the animals that live in these regions of the world and we know penguins live in Antarctica. We have used the Smartboard on various programmes this week and are learning to take turns and wait patiently at the board. We are continuing with our French lessons and have started to learn the names of some animals.

**Expressive Arts and Design-** We have used a variety of skills this week to create some beautiful artwork. We have created mosaic penguins, bubble print whales, fingerprint penguin pictures and sponge printed polar bears. The small world Arctic and Antarctic scenes were very popular and the children enjoyed constructing igloos out of sugar cubes on the malleable table. The children continue to enjoy exploring the role play area - It is lovely to hear all the language the children are using whilst role playing.

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#### **Supporting learning at home**

- Have a go at writing your own sentence.
- Find some objects, put them into two groups and work out who has 'more' and who has 'fewer'.
- Read some information books about the animals and people who live in cold places in the world.

#### **Our top tips for reading this week**

- Practise recognising and writing all the sounds you know every day
- Grown-ups, sound out these words for children to orally blend and to write – t-e-n, p-i-n, c-a-t, d-i-g, f-a-n, c-o-t, d-o-g, m-a-t, p-i-n, s-a-t
- Grown-ups make word cards (see above words) for children to read. When we want the children to sound out and blend a word we say, "Fred talk, read the word."

#### **Notes for next week 9.02.26**

- Please ensure your child has a warm coat, hat, gloves and a water bottle every day, please.
- PE kit in school, please.
- A reminder that in order to promote a healthy lifestyle we ask for water in children's water bottles, rather than squash or juice.
- Remember to wear something red to celebrate Chinese New Year on Thursday for a donation in the red envelop.
- Pancake Day menu is on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February.

Have a healthy, restful weekend.