



Reception Newsletter- Week beginning: 10.02.25

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! We are pleased that the weather has warmed up a little, so 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.

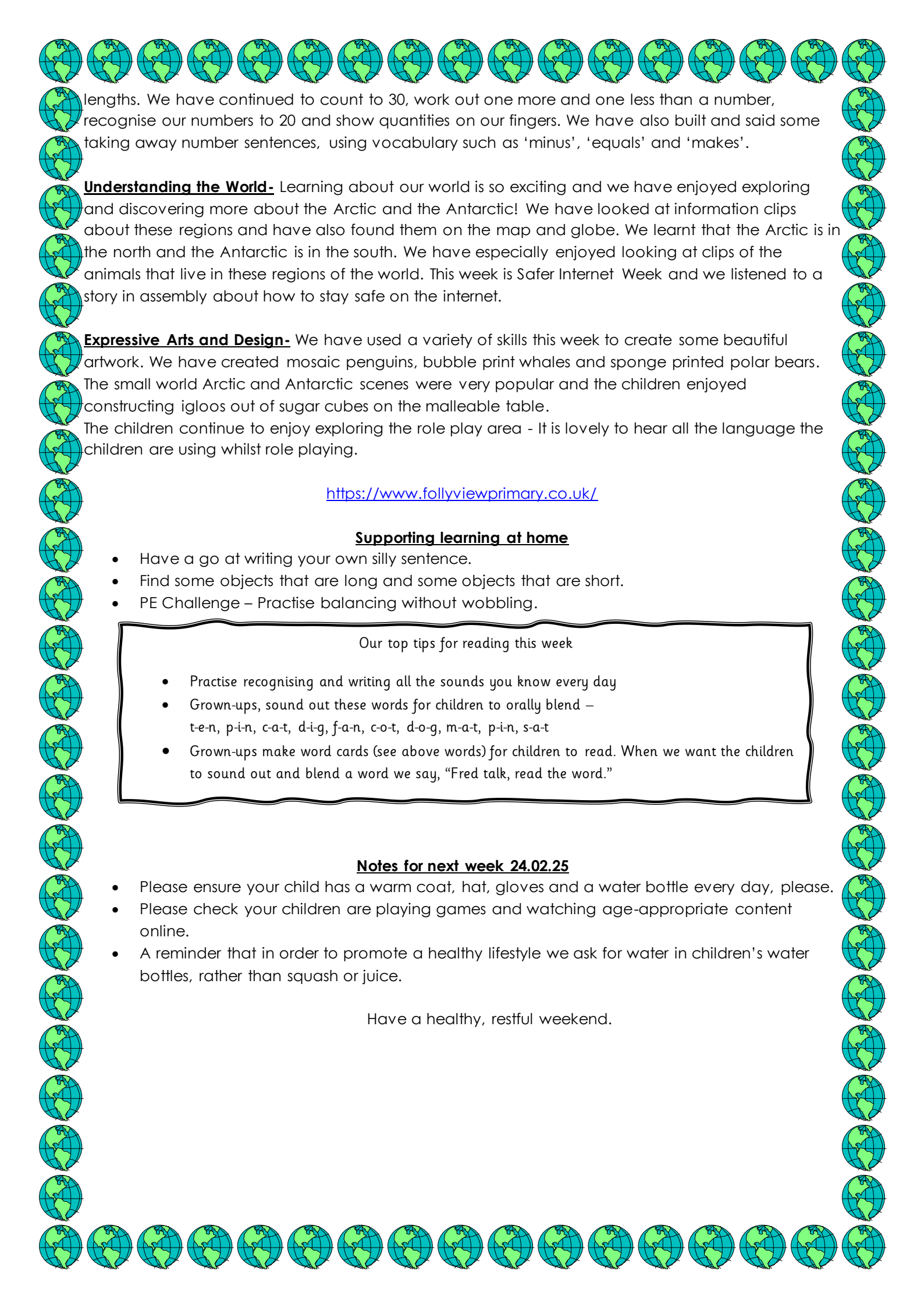
Communication and Language- We are becoming more confident in speaking in front of our friends and our teachers – sometimes our teachers find it hard to stop us! We are also practising being good listeners as it is very important to listen to what others say too. We love to hear all about what the weekend 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. 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 continued to explore balance by standing on the balls of our feet for as long as we can without wobbling and by standing on a rope on the balls of our feet.

Literacy- We have really enjoyed reading the book 'The Polar Bear and the Snow Cloud.' Phonics in our groups is going well and we have pleased our teachers, (even more!) by how much we have progressed. We are using our phonics every week to help our teachers write a sentence on the board; sometimes it is a silly sentence! We know to say the word slowly and clearly. We then use our Fred fingers and pinch the sounds we can hear onto our fingers before writing the word. We also know that each word is separated by a finger space and that we need a full stop. We tried to remember to do all this when we wrote our own silly sentence! 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 exploring and comparing length, using vocabulary such as, 'long', 'shorter' and 'longest' etc. We know that the ends have to be together when we compare



lengths. We have continued to count to 30, work out one more and one less than a number, recognise our numbers to 20 and show quantities on our fingers. We have also built and said some taking away number sentences, using vocabulary such as 'minus', 'equals' and 'makes'.

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. This week is Safer Internet Week and we listened to a story in assembly about how to stay safe on the internet.

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 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 silly sentence.
- Find some objects that are long and some objects that are short.
- PE Challenge – Practise balancing without wobbling.

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 – 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 24.02.25

- Please ensure your child has a warm coat, hat, gloves and a water bottle every day, please.
- Please check your children are playing games and watching age-appropriate content online.
- A reminder that in order to promote a healthy lifestyle we ask for water in children's water bottles, rather than squash or juice.

Have a healthy, restful weekend.