

# Reception Spring 1

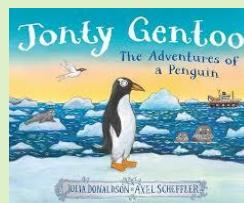
Happy New Year!

We hope you all enjoyed celebrating over the festive period and we wish you happiness and good health for 2026. We are looking forward to another term of learning and adventure together as we explore '**The Wonders of Winter**'. This theme has a Science and Understanding of the World focus. We will become polar explorers as we find out about different climates and the creatures living there.

## Literacy

Reception will be enjoying the exploits of Jonty Gentoo and will use the non-fiction book Blue Planet 2 to support our learning. We will be securing our phonics skills by giving meaningful, purposeful and varied opportunities to write.

We will be introducing the next set of phonics sounds. New groups will allow the children to develop at their own pace.



## Understanding of the World

We will be comparing different countries to our own, specifically the polar regions in which the books are set. We will be talking about differences and noticing changes along the way.

Key questions to ask are:  
**What do you think this is?**  
**Why do you think this?**



## Communication and Language

We will be continuing to practise our listening skills during circle times. We will use new vocabulary from the stories we hear. We will encourage children to express a point of view and discuss when they disagree with something.

## Maths



Continue to develop subitising and counting skills

Explore the composition of numbers - how can I make 5? Work on number bonds to 5.

Connect quantities to numerals

Reinforce simple pattern making and knowledge of 2D shapes.

We will be exploring mass and capacity through hands on active learning.

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will be using stories that explore friendship. Using the Coram life education scheme, we will be learning about what is safe and not safe to go into the body. We will discuss things that help keep us healthy.

## Physical Development



PE continues every Thursday. Our theme this term is 'Explore, Evade, Escape' and aims to develop the ability to move in a variety of ways. We will select and use equipment with others and work together to solve simple problems.

## Expressive Arts and Design



Develop model making skills, discovering different ways to connect things; glue, tape, treasury tags. Draw with increasing complexity, using a variety of tools and

Engage in music making and enjoying listening to different styles of music.



Can we remind you that we play out in all weathers, so please make sure your child has a warm, waterproof coat each day. Sometimes outdoor clothes do get messy, we remind children to wear aprons and wellies but encourage them to be independent and have fun!

**What you can do to support your child this half term:**

- Please ensure ALL your child's clothing is clearly labelled with their name, **especially** jumpers/cardigans. This gives them a chance to find their own belongings.
- Enjoy a range of fiction and non-fiction books with your child and ask them to predict what will happen next in stories using pictures and the text.
- Talk about your child's school reading book and record comments in their reading diary. **Please send books back to school each day so we can change books and also listen to your child read.** We will hear your child read one to one, at least once a week in addition to their reading in our daily small group phonics sessions. Books are changed on **MONDAYS**.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask us in the playground, 'phone or email [kate.hemming@ashlands.mlt.co.uk](mailto:kate.hemming@ashlands.mlt.co.uk)

Thank you for your support.  
The EYFS Team



To inspire a child's natural desire to learn.