



Australia Class Newsletter Spring 2026



Welcome back! I hope that you all had a peaceful Christmas break. These are some of the themes and units of work that we are going to learn about this coming term.

Overall Themes

This half-term our Topic is 'Frozen Planet' and we will be linking our English learning to this theme alongside other curriculum areas. The second half of term is called 'memory box'.

English

In English, we will be using a range of texts to delve further into our half-termly theme. We will explore fiction and non-fiction texts and explore a variety of poetry in more detail. All texts will focus on the Arctic and Antarctic which will enable each child to produce a fact-file on an Arctic animal of their choosing.

Writing to Inform - Fact file about an animal that lives in Antarctica.

Writing to Entertain - Talk 4 Writing narrative - responsibility to our planet.

Writing to Entertain - Poetry verses inspired by The Rainbow Bear.

As ever, in English, we will develop our reading, writing and speaking and listening skills. In Guided Reading sessions, children will continue to read texts that teach them inference, deduction, reading strategies, vocabulary and the content of fiction and non-fiction books. It will be based at their level and will encourage progress within their reading.

*** Please write in your child's reading log at least three times a week. Remember, extra dojos are awarded for frequent home reading!**

Maths

This term, Maths lessons will be taught slightly differently. There will be one arithmetic lesson, one reasoning/word lesson and three Year 2 curriculum lessons each week. The Maths blocks of learning of this term are:

Monday

Multiplication and division

Length and height

Mass, capacity and temperature

All children will learn new mathematical concepts using physical equipment (manipulatives) and pictorial representations before progressing to the abstract stage.

Please continue to use My Math's, Numbots and TT Rockstars at home to develop fluency

Science

This term, children will begin by learning about the seasons and seasonal changes. This will link to our topic of Frozen Planet. Following this, we will learn about living things and their habitats. This will be linked to our half-termly topics; they will use knowledge of these areas previously learnt and build upon their understanding. This term, children will also complete scientific experiments with outdoor learning during Forest School.

PE

There are two PE sessions each week, generally scheduled for Wednesday (indoor) and Friday (outdoor), and this term we will be focusing on Pilates during indoor lessons and ball skills during outdoor sessions.

Your child will need a drawstring bag with a named PE kit for indoor and outdoor sessions. As the weather remains very cold, please can I ask that children have additional layers of PE clothing. The PE kit should be brought in every Monday morning and, after indoor PE, will then be taken home on Wednesdays. On Fridays, the children may come to school in their PE kits. Please also ensure that your child's footwear fits and each item of clothing is clearly named.

Class Worship & Religious Education

Our days always contain interactive Class Worship, a prayer or elements of learning taken from the new statutory curriculum subject 'Relationships & Health Education' curriculum (previously named PSHE). Our Christian Values for this half-term is love. Occasionally, class worship is led by Father Paul or by Mr. Holloway. RE for Spring 1 will focus on Judaism and Jewish New year. Spring 2 will focus on the Crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus as we approach Easter.

Art and Design

The children will be exploring, designing and evaluating moving picture books. End Product: The children will create their own moving picture books.

Computing

We will continue to use Purple Mash as a comprehensive educational learning tool. Your child will create sequenced programs using a variety of events and timers.

RHE

Year 2 pupils will be learning about Y2 Sex and Relationships Education - boys and girls, families.

NB. If anybody has any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

History

In our History sessions, we will be learning about the famous explorers who have made the journey to the Poles.

Geography

This term, the children will develop their map skills this term. They will:

Imagine and plot the journey of a polar bear.

Name and locate the world's 7 continents and 5 oceans.

Use simple compass directions.

Identify seasonal and daily weather patterns.

Use basic geographical vocabulary to refer to key physical features

Music

Pupils will be following a program of learning to play the glockenspiel. Each week, we will learn new notes alongside learning to develop listening and singing skills. The aim is to perform what they have learned at our Celebration Assembly.

Homework

A homework grid is available via Google Classroom.

We ask that your child completes one activity or a piece of work each week.

Children can also choose more challenging, independent home learning tasks if they wish.

Depending on the task, we ask that you upload completed work onto Google Classroom, email australia@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk or bring it into class

NUT-FREE SCHOOL - Just a reminder: Please remember we are a nut-free school.

Please do not provide any snacks or lunches that contain nuts or nut products.

We urge you to get in touch if you have any problems or concerns no matter how small and insignificant you think they are.

Kind Regards, Mrs. Packham

IMPORTANT DATES - SPRING

- Friday 16th January - Drama session
- Friday 13th February - INSET Day
- Mon 16th - Fri 20th February - Half term
- Weds 4th March - Class photos
- Thurs 5th March - World Book Day
- Weds 11th March - Celebration Assembly
- 17th and 19th March - Parents' Evenings
- Weds 25th March - School Disco
- Thurs 26th March - Last day of term
- Fri 27th March - INSET Day