



Curriculum Newsletter



Spring 1 2024

RB -
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Mrs Yarranton -
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WINTER!
Why is it cold?

RM -
Mrs Mercer -
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Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We are working on skills of communication and collaboration. The children know each other well now and can share ideas in a group. The children will think about our class rules and why we have them. They will learn new vocabulary to describe emotions.

Our Topic:

WINTER

We will learn about seasons and weather and explore cold climates around the world. We will experiment with freezing and melting and compare lifestyles, animals and seasons in different parts of the world.

Communication and Language

We are going to learn to recite sentences, poems and songs. The children will work on speaking in past, present and future tense and using conjunctions to extend their sentences - *and, then, but*

Physical Development

This half term we will focus on holding a pencil or pen correctly. This is called tripod grip.

- Hold pencil with a light grip.
1. Thumb holds pencil.
 2. First finger rests on top of the pencil.
 3. Pencil rests against third finger.



Books we will be reading

Our texts this half term will be linked to polar animals, winter and weather. This will include the stories;

- Lost and Found by Oliver Jeffers
- Penguin Parcel by Victoria Cassanell
- One Winter's Day by M. Christina Butler

We will also read the story of Chinese New Year

Literacy

The sounds we will be focusing on are:

- **j,v,w,x,y,z,zz,qu**

The tricky words we will focus on are:

- **he, she, we, me, be, was, my, you, her, they**

We are really enjoying Drawing Club and the children are all using letters, words or sentences in their work.

Understanding the World

We will use maps a lot this half term. We will think about life in other parts of the world and find out more about the seasons. We will create our own weather reports using technology and design our own equipment for measuring rainfall...(or snowfall!)

Expressive Arts and Design

Our new home corners will be used to develop roles and pretend play. We will tell our own stories and use a range of materials to draw, paint and collage festival pictures and patterns.

Mathematics

Maths is moving on to composition of number. We encourage the children to see quantities within a larger amount - I can see two and two and that makes four. We will introduce zero and practise number recognition.

[Key Instant Recall Facts](#)

This is a list of the number facts we teach each year at Catshill First School.

PE Kits

Both classes will have their PE on a Monday morning.

All children need to have a PE kit in school;
-a white t-shirt and black shorts

All kit needs to be clearly named in a bag which is also clearly named.

We will send this home half termly to wash. Please do let us know if items go missing and we will try our best to reunite you!

Forest School 1

**RB - Wednesday PM
RM - Friday PM**

On Forest School days children need to come into school in appropriate clothing e.g. tracksuit bottoms and jumpers. Arms and legs should always be covered and your child will definitely need additional layers, **hats** or snoods and **gloves**.

Forest School 2

Please send in named waterproof clothing, (tops and trousers or an all-in-one) and wellies in a named bag for children to change into.

This bag will be sent home after each Forest School session.

Additional Information

Please only send in a water bottle if your child has a lunchbox.

All uniform, coats and bags need to be clearly named please. Gloves, scarves and hats also need names in as these can easily get lost.

READING - please read together at least 3 times a week and write in your child's diary.