

Y6 Soaring Swifts Newsletter

Could we survive in a frozen wasteland?



Topic

Welcome to the planet's coldest lands ... vast wilds, hostile territories, incredibly beautiful but often deadly. During our learning journey this half term, we will consider what it would be like to live in the Arctic or Antarctic. We will further develop our **geography** skills by identifying physical features of the Polar Regions including glaciers, ice shelves and melt ponds. In **science** we will experiment with icebergs and understand the adaptations of living things that thrive in these extreme climates. We will complete detailed research about a polar animal of our choice and present our findings using a piece of writing, art work and a scientific diagram. So wrap up war everybody and settle in by the fire. We are heading outside and could be some time...

In English we will read, discuss and write about the voyage and sinking of RMS Titanic

- Persuasive writing - A cruise brochure aimed at First Class passengers
- Non-chronological report - The reasons behind the disaster.
- Narrative - Writing our own disaster story.
- Extracts of literature linked to the maiden voyage of the Titanic.

Handwriting must be joined neatly.

Grammar: We will focus on cohesive devices, bullet points, prepositions, semi colons and commas used to mark lists and separate clauses.

Guided Reading: We will continue to develop and deepen our reading skills during through our daily guided sessions. **Please read your child's reading record to see what they skills they have been developing.**

Maths

This half term, children will consolidate and deepen their understanding of:

- Securing and using the four operations in a variety of problems
- Reading and plotting co-ordinates on the four quadrants
- Place value of decimals and negative numbers
- Adding and subtracting fractions
- Reasoning and problem solving

I ♥
maths

Core Story

Our core story this half term will be Northern Lights by Philip Pullman. This is a tale of a young girl who is desperate to find her friend after he disappears. Her quest leads her to the bleak splendour of the North, where armoured bears rule the ice and witch-queens fly through the frozen skies. *What strange terrors will she need to overcome? Will she find her friend? Is there more to the Northern Lights than we thought?*

Dates for your diary

Curriculum parents' meeting: Wednesday 11th January 2017

SATs Boosters: Information to follow

Pride folder celebrations: TBC

The Homework Menu

Your child will bring home a new Homework Menu which gives them a choice of activities to be completed at home across the half term. They can choose any activity and complete them in any order. Each activity attracts a different number of points with the aim of collecting a minimum of 25 points.

In addition to this, your child will receive weekly homework for:

- Mathematics
- English
- Spellings
- Reading children should read a minimum of 3 times either independently or with an adult (please sign the reading record as confirmation).

Polite Reminders

PE kits (indoor and outdoor) need to be in school each Monday morning and stay in school all week.

Please remind your child to bring their **reading record** to school every day. It is important that children read regularly at home as this will help them to develop their reading ability, vocabulary and their love of reading. Please read and sign your child's record regularly.

Spellings and other homework will be set each Friday with a due date of the following Thursday. Homework is an integral part of your child's learning journey and enables them to apply their understanding independently. Please encourage and support your child to complete their homework on their own and to meet deadlines.

Knowledge of **Times tables** will also be regularly assessed - any support you can give your child with this is extremely valuable.

Children should have a **water bottle** in school that they can access whenever needed.

Pencil cases are not needed in school - all writing equipment is provided.

If your child needs an **inhaler** in school, please send one into school clearly labelled with their name.

Should you have any questions or need further support from us, please do not hesitate to ask and we will be happy to help.