



# Rye Community Primary School

"A Gateway to learning"

Dear Parents,

The children have settled back into school well and enjoyed sharing their news from the Christmas holidays. We have started the term by exploring the polar regions. The children have learnt lots about the different animals and how they have adapted to live in cold environments. We will continue this winter theme of learning with lots of science and ice investigations.

## Literacy

We have begun the term recapping on the phase 2 phonemes that the children learnt last term before we move on to Phase 3. The children need to be practising blending these sounds to read words every day, so it is very important that you hear them read every day. Please update the reading records and remember to fill in the Buster Book Club on a Wednesday as we need the whole class to be taking part in order to win the coveted award in assembly on Friday.

You can support your child's writing at home by providing lots of mark making opportunities, drawing and colouring in all help with pencil control. When they are secure you can use the resources we send home to support with letter formation.

### How You Can Help

Continue to read to and with your child. Model being a reader to them. You are their heroes, if they see you reading they will copy!

Support your child to retell a familiar story. Talk to you child about what happens in the beginning, middle and end.

Encourage your child to recognise familiar signs and symbols in the world around them, as well as the sounds as they learn them.

Practise oral blending by playing games or giving instructions, such as time to brush your t-ee-th or can you pass me that r-e-d car?

## Maths

This term we will be introducing the children to key mathematical concepts, such as addition and subtraction. The children will begin to solve problems practically by **adding one more** or making **one less**, as well as combining totals to find out how many **altogether**, as well as **taking away** and finding out **how many are left**.

We will be exploring shape, space and measure by making comparisons related to size and weight; reinforcing the key vocabulary such as small, large, smaller, smallest, larger, largest, tall, short, taller, shorter, heavy, light, heavier, lighter, heaviest, lightest. We will introduce measures of time through sequencing, using vocabulary such as **before, now, after, later**.

### How You Can Help

#### **Day to day**

Can they count out items in a shopping basket, how many carrots do you have left on your plate?

Use the key vocabulary (above in **bold**) everyday.

Talk about how and why we use money. Show children coins as you're paying. Can they recognise them?

Encourage your children to find 1 more /1 less than a given number. For example, 1 more than 5 is..... You could then extend to 2 more /2 less.



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### PE

Please could you ensure that your child has a PE kit in school at all times. Minnows and Sardines have PE on Thursday. Please check **all** uniform; including PE kit and make sure it is **clearly labelled**. We would appreciate it if you could check that your child has not mistakenly taken home another child's uniform.

### Forest School

The Reception children continue to benefit from regular Forest School sessions led by Mrs. McDonald and Mrs Leach. The children take turns to go in groups, this term, on a Friday afternoon. The children enjoy exploring nature in the Sensory garden and allotment and look forward to exploring the new Forest School site, which will even have a pond. Forest School sessions are all weather so please ensure that your child has come to school with appropriate clothing. You may wish to send in wellies and an all in one but please ensure it is all named.

### Next Steps & WOWs

We will continue to send home copies of the Next Steps for your child. These are based on our observations and assessments along with information you have given us. We outline what we will be doing in school to help your child progress towards achieving their next steps and making suggestions of what you could do at home to help. Please keep us updated on how well your child is doing at home in meeting these next steps by completing a WOW. The children love celebrating these WOWs with us in class.

### **We need your help!**

**We would really appreciate some help with hearing the children read in school. If you are able to spare an hour or so a week please come and speak to Mrs. Isted.**

We gratefully receive your **recycling** that the children use for junk modelling so please keep it coming in. We are currently working on improving the book corners in both the Minnows and Sardines classrooms. If you have any **soft furnishings** such as rugs, cushions, beanbags or bunting that you no longer want please send them in.

Don't forget to check out the Reception pages on the school website for updates and to see some of our wonderful learning.

Thank you for your support,

Reception team