



Be the BEST You Can Be

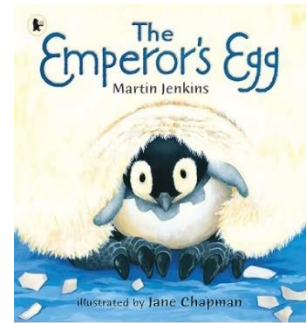
## Class 4 Newsletter

### Term 3 2024

Whatever you do, do with all your heart. Colossians 3:23

#### Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

I hope you all have a wonderful rest over Christmas with family and friends. I am excited to be returning to Year 4. Term 3 will be a busy one as we start the year, 2024, with plenty of learning.



#### What we are learning

Our topic this term is based around the book 'The Emperor Penguin' by Martin Jenkins. The book is based around the Emperor penguin who is the only large animal to remain on the Antarctic mainland throughout its bitter winter.

In English, we will be writing non-chronological reports and building on our grammar and punctuation knowledge using the book as inspiration.

Since this story is set in Antarctica, our Geography topic will be locating Antarctica on a map and looking at the physical geography. We will also be researching Ernest Shackleton and looking at the low biodiversity of species living in Antarctica.

In Maths, we will be building on our knowledge of multiplication and division and then moving on to length and perimeter.

In DT we will be creating our own 'Torches' this will link to last terms learning looking at circuits. Children will evaluate why torches are successful and will design and make their own torches.

Our unit in Science is 'States of matter'. This will involve planning our own investigations, taking measurements, recording data, and using scientific evidence to support ideas. We will be looking carefully at how liquids change states and how evaporation and condensation occur within the water cycle.

In RE, we will be learning about 'why do religious books and teachings matter?'

In PE, our unit will be gymnastics – we will be heading to Dragonfly leisure on Friday afternoon to develop our skills in gymnastics.

In French, we will be continuing to practise our skills of speaking and listening and start our new topic on the weather.

In PHSE, our focus will be on Dreams and Goals.

In Computing, we will be looking at common commands of a logo programme and will compose algorithms for mathematical structures and will turn this into logo codes.

## Reading

We are very excited to have a brand-new library at the school, opened by local author Stewart Foster, as well as new books in the classroom – many of which have been chosen by the class! Reading has been proven to have many, many benefits including: improving concentration and vocabulary, developing imagination and teaches us about the world around us. I'm sure you would agree that it is a valuable skill!

Please continue helping your child to read at home and sign their reading record so they are recognised and rewarded for their efforts in reading at home. Here are some questions you can ask your child about what they've read:

Predict it!	...predict what might happen from what you have read? <i>What happened first?</i> <i>Next? After that? Finally? Why?</i>
Understand it!	...explain the meaning of the more difficult words in the book? <i>What does ....mean?</i> <i>Which word means the same as...?</i>
Find it!	...pick out information or key details from the book? <i>Which words....?</i> <i>Who? When? Where? What?</i>
Summarise it!	...tell you the main points in an information book? <i>What have you learned from this page?</i> ...talk about the main parts of the story? <i>What is this paragraph or chapter about?</i>
Think about it!	...think about what has happened in the book and give reasons why? <i>Which words tells you that....?</i> <i>How is the character feeling? How do you know?</i>
Link it!	...talk about how things in the book link together? <i>What are the themes in the book? What is the big idea?</i>
Listen to it!	...talk about why the writer has chosen words and phrases? <i>How does the book make you feel? Why?</i> <i>Are there parts of the book that you really enjoyed? Why?</i>
Compare it!	...talk about different parts of the story or characters? <i>How do the characters change in the story?</i> <i>Does this book remind you of other stories that you have read?</i>

## Winter Weather

Now the weather is a lot colder, please ensure your child comes to school every day with a warm, waterproof named coat. To take advantage of our amazing school grounds, it would be brilliant if each child has their own pair of wellies in school, which they can wear at lunch times on the field.

### PE

Pupils will need to wear their PE kits to school on Fridays.

**Homework project: Please pick one**

- 1) 3d map of the world locating Antarctica.
- 2) 3d model of living habitats in Antarctica.
- 3) 3d igloo made out of recycling.



## ...and finally

As ever, if you have any worries or questions relating to your child and need a little more time, please do not hesitate to arrange a time to talk. It is important for us all that your children are happy at school, so please keep us informed of any concerns, no matter how small. You can contact me via Class Dojo during school hours and I will do my best to reply to you as soon as possible.

Mrs Dobson

