

# Reception News

Spring 1 Week 5 – 2nd February 2024

## What have we been learning?

- ◆ In our Phonics sessions this week we have been learning the last of our digraphs & trigraphs - we have learnt so many and done so well! We have looked at **air** and **er**. We tasted mini chocolate eclairs for **air** and gingerbread men biscuits for **er**. We have been practising writing these sounds in words too!
- ◆ We have thinking about the **9ness of 9** in our maths sessions. We have looked at different groups of 9 objects & also the different ways that 9 can be represented. We have also started to record addition number sentences by using the + and = symbols to show the totals of the amount of dots on different dominoes.
- ◆ The children have been learning lots of facts about Antarctica this week. They have been really interested and have asked lots of questions! They were especially fascinated to learn that, although scientists and tourists can go to visit, no one actually lives in Antarctica!
- ◆ On Wednesday morning, Mrs Matthews came in to speak to us about why the Bible is a special book for Christians. She brought 3x Bibles with her - her own, her son's and her Grandad's - and we all really enjoyed listening to her. We thought her lion puppet "Leo" was great fun too!

Talking about the Bible with Mrs Matthews.

## A point to note...

We have now reached the end of the new sounds which your child will be learning whilst they are in Reception. So, from this week onwards, we will be recapping the trickier digraphs (2 letters making 1 sound) and trigraphs (3 letters making 1 sound) within our daily Phonics sessions to ensure that the children can use them independently in their reading and their writing. As such, your support with continuing to use their brown Sound Book at home in order to ensure that your child is able to recognise all of our taught sounds is very much appreciated.

## Homework

### Literacy

- Sounds - especially new sounds **er** and **air** and practise correct formation of letters.
- Reading books - *Please write us a comment every week to let us know how your child manages at home with their reading books. We really do value your comments.*
- Sight words - It helps the children to become much more fluent with their reading if they are able to recognise taught "tricky words" without needing to blend them. For example, they should now be beginning to recognise words like **is, it, in, and, on, as & has** as they are reading independently.

### Maths

- **I Spy number 9** - Can your child find & draw a circle around all the different ways of representing number 9?