

# Reception News

Spring 1 Week 4 – 30th January 2026

## What have we been learning?

- ◆ The children have been learning lots of facts about **polar bears**. They have asked lots of super questions about the North Pole and about polar bears too! They each wrote their own a sentence about a polar bear and they were encouraged to think about an adjective to describe the bear too (e.g. *It is big*). This week we have also practised our 1:1 counting skills by counting different amounts of polar bears & writing the numbers ourselves.
- ◆ This week we have been learning more of our digraphs and trigraphs. We have looked at **ur, ow, oi** and **ear**. Even though these digraphs are quite tricky, we have been trying so hard to spot them when they are hiding in the middle of words. We have been practising writing all of these sounds too and our handwriting is really improving!
- ◆ In Maths we have been adding different amounts of objects and looking at number sentences to match which used the '+' and '=' symbols. We have also been learning to write the number **9** correctly with the help of "**Nina 9**" on Ten Town.

Using the apparatus in PE was so exciting!

Showing the answer to addition number sentences on our number fans.

## Homework

### Literacy

- Sounds - especially new sounds **ur, ow, oi** and **ear** and practise the 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, at, as, and, on & has** as they are reading their books independently.

### Maths

- Practise counting forwards from 1 to 20 and then backwards from 20 to 0. If this is a bit tricky, try counting backwards from 10 to 0 initially and then gradually build up to being able to count backwards from 20.
- Practise forming number **9** in their yellow books and on the Ten Town website.