

Reception News

Spring 1 Week 3 - 23rd January 2026

What have we been learning?

- ◆ This week we have been learning more of our new digraphs. We have looked at **oo**, **oo**, **ar** and **or**. We learnt that (like **th**) the digraph **oo** makes two different sounds (short **oo** as in **book** and long **oo** as in **pool**). We have tried Magic Stars, our usual fruit snack for **food** (long **oo**), mini **cookies** (short **oo**) & **Oreos**...mmm! We have been practising writing all of these sounds too and our handwriting is really improving!
- ◆ The children have been learning lots of facts about the wonderful birds which are **penguins**. They have asked lots of super questions about penguins too! They each wrote their own a sentence about a penguin & they were encouraged to think about an adjective to describe the penguin too (e.g. It has got a long beak).
- ◆ We decorated our own penguin masks, which helped us to practise our cutting and colouring skills. We have really been enjoying ourselves by dancing to the song “Penguins, Attention!” and singing along to the “Party Penguins” rap from Andy’s Wild Adventures too.

Penguins, penguins everywhere!

Making a Penguin huddle to keep warm!!!

Homework

Literacy

- Sounds - especially new digraphs **oo**, **oo**, **ar** and **or** and practise correct formation of letters.
- Reading books - *please write us a comment to let us know how your child managed with their reading.*
- 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

- **I Spy number 8** - can your child find & draw a circle around all the different ways of representing number 8?