

WELCOME HELLO! Hi!

Happy New Year and welcome to another jam-packed term in the Penguins! The children made amazing progress over the Autumn Term, and we can't wait to see how they build on that this term. Let's continue to support their learning journey together and celebrate their achievements along the way!

Hello

PE for Penguins is on **Monday** with Coach Adam and **Tuesday** with Coach Tim.

We visit the library throughout the week



Topic themes

Spring 1 - **What makes cold places cold?**
Spring 2 - **What is a castle and what will I find there?**



Literacy

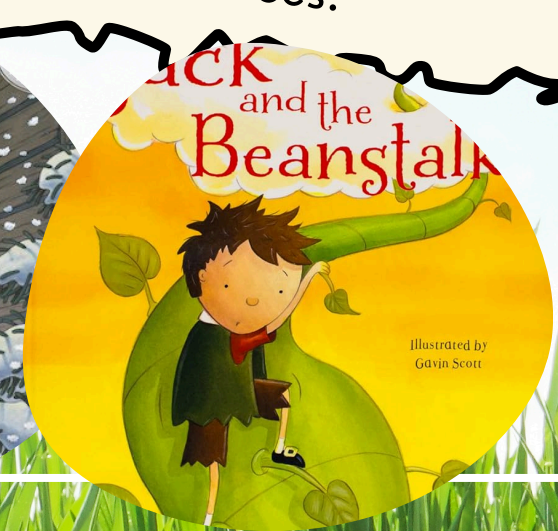
We'll be having lots of fun with Percy the Park Keeper in the story One Snowy Night and the big, scary giant in Jack and the Beanstalk! The children will be talking about what happens in each story, putting the events in the right order, getting to know the characters, and sharing their favourite parts.

We'll also be having a go at reading and writing words and simple captions linked to the stories, helping children build confidence with their early reading and writing.

Alongside our stories, we'll be exploring non-fiction books about Arctic animals and learning about animal life cycles in spring. The children will discover interesting facts about animals and how they grow and change, and will share what they learn through pictures, labels, and simple sentences.



PENGUINS





Communication and Language

We will keep supporting the children as they chat and play with each other and with familiar adults, helping them learn how to listen and respond in a two-way conversation. We'll encourage them to really listen to one another, respond thoughtfully, and begin to ask and answer different kinds of questions. We'll continue to build children's language skills through lots of storytelling, role play, and high-quality conversations with adults, all within a language-rich environment where children are encouraged to talk, share ideas, and explore new words every day.



Physical Development

Over this term, we'll be experimenting with lots of big movements in PE, giving children opportunities to practise and improve skills such as rolling, running, jumping, and skipping. We'll also help them learn how to move safely in shared spaces, becoming more aware of themselves and others. We'll continue to work on small movements too, encouraging children to use one-handed tools and equipment with more control. This includes practising movements like drawing around a corner or in a spiral, as well as helping children to hold a pencil using a tripod grip. All of this supports children's confidence, coordination, and readiness for writing in a fun and active way.



Expressive arts and design

We will continue to explore our creativity through art and music. The children will make winter artwork using wax resist techniques and have fun discovering how to make pictures move!

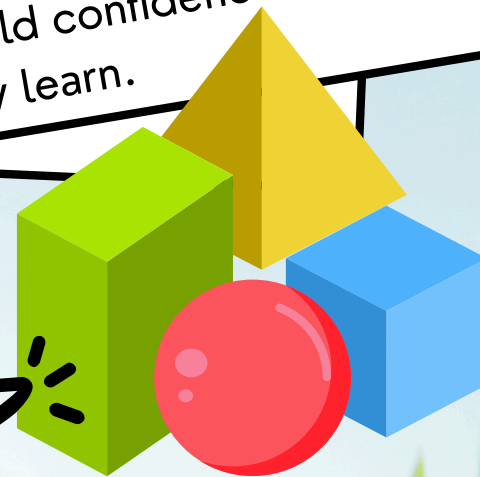
Our daily activities will give the children lots of chances to talk, sing, create, and build using their own ideas, encouraging imagination and independence.



Numeracy

We will continue to build our understanding of numbers to 5, learning to quickly recognise amounts without having to count each one. We'll also start exploring how numbers are made by looking at the composition of numbers to 8, and learning about doubles by finding numbers that can be split into two equal parts.

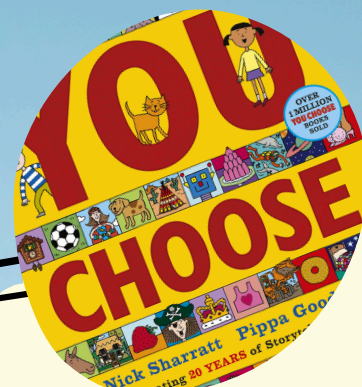
Alongside this, we'll be getting hands-on with measuring weight and capacity, using lots of practical activities to compare and explore. We'll also be learning to recognise 3D shapes, spotting them in the classroom and in everyday objects. Lots of our maths learning will be playful and practical, helping children build confidence and enjoyment as they learn.



Understanding the world

This term, we'll be exploring the seasons of Winter and Spring, and thinking about how they are different from what we noticed in Autumn. We'll also find out what it might be like to live in a very cold place and compare it to life here in Shepshed.

In addition, we'll be learning about Chinese New Year and Easter, exploring how and why these celebrations happen, and enjoying activities linked to these special times.



This lesson uses You Choose to explore choice and individuality. Children share preferences, listen to others, and learn that different choices are valued, taking turns, expressing opinions, and understanding that everyone is included and respected within the class community.



This lesson uses Red Rockets and Rainbow Jelly to explore difference and friendship. Children share preferences, recognise similarities and differences, and learn that liking different things is normal, valued, and does not stop us from being friends or belonging together.

Friends

Personal, social & emotional development

During this term, we'll be supporting the children to become more independent learners, helping them follow more detailed instructions and encouraging them to have a go for themselves. We'll support them to show independence every day, as well as resilience and perseverance when things feel tricky.

We'll also explore how to be kind and sensitive to the needs of others, enjoying playing together, working as part of a group, and taking turns more easily during shared activities.

BE KIND
KEEP GOING

everyone's
welcome