

# Welcome to the Reception newsletter

12th January 2024

## What's been happening in Owls and Foxes classes...

Happy New Year! We all want to thank you for the wonderful gifts and cards we received for Christmas. It was very kind of you.

We have been busy investigating shapes this week, focussing on the words straight and curved to describe the shapes. We can now identify lots of different triangles, which always have 3 straight sides. We were surprised to find so many ways to make a triangle and used some to make art and pictures. We looked at the work of the famous artists Kandinsky and Paul Klee, who used shapes as their inspiration.



Next week we will focus on finding the amount that is one more or one less than a number and what teen numbers show us.

In phonics we have begun learning the phase 3 sounds and how to read and spell with them. This week we have learnt j, v, w, x and next week we will look at y, z, qu, ch. Here is an explanation of the phase 3 sounds, which get quite tricky now!

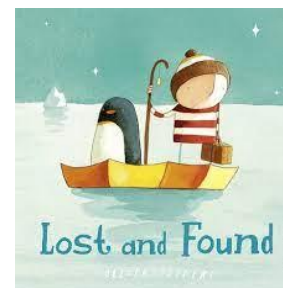
<https://www.phonicsbloom.com/uk/article/phonics-phase-3-expansion>

The phonics bloom website also has some useful games on it. We would recommend using the phase 2 games as practice, until we have taught the phase 3 sounds at school.

We have read *Lost and Found* by Oliver Jeffers (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cRAAQ8EWzig>) in our writing lessons and this has led to an interest in Penguins and the South Pole. We will continue to explore this theme next week, looking at maps and comparing the polar regions to our own homes. We will think about caring for the world, which links in with the Catholic Social Teaching theme of stewardship

### Love of books

We thought you would like to see our new cosy reading area, being very well used! The children love to cosy up with each other and share books.





In RE we are thinking about how Jesus blessed the little children and how he showed them his love. (Mark 10:13) We will sing the song 'Jesus loves me this I know'.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KqghCEtITFo>

Next week we will find out how Jesus welcomes and cares for everyone and how we can make others feel welcome and cared for too.

We welcomed Miss Eyre and Mrs Sadler, our trainee teachers, back to school this week and they will be with us until February 9th.

### **Important dates**

January 29th and 30th vision and hearing screening in school

February 16th- Finish school for half term break

Please feel free to come and talk to us if you have any questions, or send us an email.

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Best wishes,

Mrs Buddle, Mrs Kirby, Mrs Staines and Mrs Jeal