



Friday 23rd January

It has been a cold and frosty week in Goslings and Cygnets as we have travelled to our first continent on our worldwide adventure: Antarctica!

We have loved learning about lots of different kinds of penguins and learning about how they keep themselves warm and find food in such a cold place. The children were amazing at solving our big science problem, when some playful penguins got stuck in ice - the children worked together to find different ways to melt the ice to rescue the penguins safely—maybe they can remember and tell you which method worked the fastest at freeing the penguins from the ice? We will be continuing our exploration of penguins into next week as we think about textures and materials that keep us warm.



Phonics

Our sounds this week are definitely trying to trick us out! We have learned that an oo can make 2 different sounds: oo as in 'moon' as well as 'oo' as in 'cook'. Each digraph has its own phrase to help the children remember the different pronunciations and we have learned this week that if we see an 'oo' sound in a word that it's important to try both sounds to see which one makes a word we know!

Reading

As we move beyond our initial SATPIN books for many of the children, from time to time, we may not have enough physical copies of each book for the children to practise reading with at home. We will endeavour to do our best to spread our books across the year group but we may have to place a sticker in your yellow record book signposting you to the e-book version instead. Do please speak to your child's teacher if this presents a particular problem at home as we will do our best to help you.

Mathematics

This week we have made it up to 17—the children are really confident explaining how to make these larger numbers by joining '10 and a friend' together. We will explore the rest of the numbers up to 20 next week before heading back down to our numbers within 10 as we begin to introduce more challenging concepts such as odd and even numbers.

Forest School



A big thank you for putting extra socks in Forest School bags this week, it's made a big difference supporting the children after our sessions—please continue to send additional pairs of socks in with Forest School clothes.

Resource request!

At forest school, we enjoy using natural materials for den building and making crafts. Long sticks / branches and wood slices / logs are a valuable resource for the children to use but can be very expensive to continually source. We wanted to take this opportunity to ask if any of our families ever have tree fellings at home or have connections with tree surgeons etc if they would consider donating wood for us to use as resources at our forest school—we would really appreciate any donations! If you have something you think could be suitable, please have a chat with one of the teachers after school. Thank you!

Thank you—Miss Ford!

Since September, Cygnets class has welcomed a trainee teacher, Miss Ford, into our busy Reception class and this week marks the end of her placement with us. The children and staff have really loved getting to know her and we wish her the best of luck as she continues her training at Chadsgrove School.

Grapheme	Catchphrase	Pronunciation phrase
oo	 <p data-bbox="316 544 502 582">hook a book</p>	<p data-bbox="582 185 769 342">Pucker your lips and keep them small as you say oo oo oo</p>
oo	 <p data-bbox="274 981 547 1019">zoom to the moon</p>	<p data-bbox="582 618 762 869">Open your mouth just a bit, put your hand on your tummy, pull your tummy in and say oo oo oo</p>