



Literacy

This week, we continued to read 'The Emperor's Egg.' We explored new vocabulary in the book and learnt synonyms for the word 'miserable.' The children continued to learn lots of facts about penguins and how they keep warm. The children made their own huddle in class. The penguin chick teddies also went missing on Wednesday! The children learned about adjectives and used these to describe the penguins. They made posters and put them up around school to let people know what the chicks look like and tell people that they are missing. The children have also been writing simple sentences about what penguins eat. They know so many facts about emperor penguins now. Ask your child to share what he/ she knows about emperor penguins.

Understanding the World (Past and Present)

We have been learning about another famous explorer called Ernest Shackleton. The children listened to the story about Shackleton's adventure to Antarctica on a ship called the Endurance. The weather was that cold, the sea turned to ice and the ship got stuck! The children discussed what they would do to try to keep warm if they were stuck on the ship.

Understanding the World (The Natural World)

This week, the children learnt about the life cycle of an emperor penguin. They looked at the 4 stages of an emperor penguin's life (egg, chick, fledgling and adult). The children sequenced the life cycle of a penguin.

Physical Development

We have been developing the skill of bouncing and catching a ball. The children played the 'Bean Game' to warm up their bodies. They then practised the skill of bouncing a ball in front of them and catching it. This then progressed to working with a partner to bounce the ball for their partner to catch. The children have been developing their hand-eye coordination and turn taking skills.

Maths

In Maths this week, we have been focusing on the number 4. The children were encouraged to tell a story about 4 (using images in an animation to prompt discussion). We looked at tetrominoes (shapes made up of 4 squares) and used the magnetic shapes to recreate the tetrominoes. The children used part-part whole diagrams to partition 4 into two groups. The children are making fantastic progress in Maths.

Expressive Arts & Design

This week, the children listened to a piece of music and were asked to move in response to the music. They were then encouraged to paint in response to music. If the tempo of the music was slow, children were encouraged to paint gentle strokes, when the tempo increased, they were encouraged to paint in different directions to represent this.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

This week, we have been talking about rules and why it is important to have them. The children made their own class rules and have agreed to follow their rules that they created. Ask your child if he/ she can remember any of our rules and why it is an important rule.

Reminders & Notices

- PJ Day on Friday 24th January. Children can come to school in their pyjamas on this day to support the charity 'Time for Bed.' Please ensure that the children still wear their trainers as we will still do PE in the hall.
- Please make sure that your child is not bringing toys, lipglosses, teddies etc into school. The children get really upset if their things go missing. They also become a distraction for the children whilst we are trying to learn. Thank you.
- Water bottles- Please make sure that your child brings a water bottle to school everyday so that they have access to a drink throughout the day.

Thank you for your support! Mrs O'Keeffe & Miss Dutton
Miss McGrath, Miss Glascott & Miss Ryan