

Imagine floating high above land and sea on a bed of clouds, silently sweeping by on a billowing breeze. Back down to earth, let's take a walk outdoors. But what should we wear? Wellington boots? A sun hat? Maybe a warm coat? How do we know what the weather will be like today? Read and write poems and postcards, and, if you don't like today's weather report, why not write your own? Make a weather station to find out more about the weather in your area. What weather do you prefer? Sunshine, snow, storms or showers? Get your wellies on and let's go.

Through the topic this half term the learning will be-

In Science lessons the children will:

- To observe changes across the 4 seasons in the context of the weather.
- Observe changes across the 4 seasons by going on an autumn walk.
- Explore the variety of different clothing we wear in the seasons.

In English the children will focus on the books:

- Storm
- Sun
- Rain
- The Storm Whale in Winter
- If winter comes, tell it I'm not here



In Geography lessons we will:

- Watch weather reports, and videos of extreme weather.
- Explore the different weather symbols that are used in a weather report and make our own.

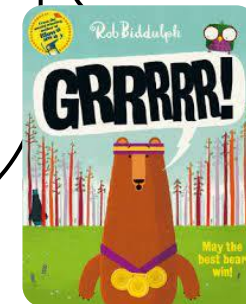
In Art lessons we will:

- Make season trees decorate a tree for each season using a range of materials.
- Look at weather paintings by Henri Rousseau, Turner, Gustave Caillebotte and Monet to hunt for clues for the seasons.
- Look at artist Berndnaut Smilde's moving clouds installations. How has it been made? Tie die material to make clouds

Our author this half term is Rob Biddulph. If you have any books your child would like to share – please do remember to put their name on the inside cover.

The children can continue to bring in any book that they would like to read to the class. This encourages the children to read for pleasure and choose what they want to read. We then discuss the book and take a class vote.

The children really enjoy reading and sharing books from home so please encourage and support your child to do this.



The homework task – pick one

Please bring your homework in on the 27th November 2023

Fold a piece of paper into four quarters – one quarter for each of the seasons. Use what you know about the seasons to draw a picture in each section. Include the weather and what the trees and other plants look like. You might also like to include animals in your pictures. Give each section a title and write a short description.

Look at an information book or age-appropriate videos and websites online with an adult to learn more about the weather and seasons. Write one or more fascinating facts to show something that you have learned after reading and listening. Draw a picture to match your fascinating facts.

Learn about the current season by going for a walk in your locality. Talk about the weather and spot and photograph seasonal features. Afterwards, draw a map of your walk, including pictures to show what you saw and where you saw it. Write a few sentences to recount your walk.

Reading

Reading books will be changed on a Monday and Friday. Phonics books will be changed once your child has read in three phonics sessions.

P.E

All children will have Dance Monday afternoon with Mrs Whittle and PE with Mrs Pendle on a Thursday.

Here we are at the start of what is going to be a busy half term. It has been a very stormy start, which has added to the children's enthusiasm for the topic.

Thank you to all the Reception parents for attending the phonics lessons last half term. This was the first time we had done this and I was very pleased with how the lessons went and the responses. The Reception children will continue to work through the Read, Write Inc phonics scheme. They will also take part in some of the topic learning beside Year 1 and 2 and they continue follow the Early Years curriculum.

Please continue to support your children at home with their reading. Reading every night with your child is a good habit and a great way to set routines. Children can also practice their letter formation and scissor cutting skills. All these activities will greatly support your child's learning that we do every day at school.



Key Vocabulary

Aerial – From or in the air

Anemometer – A toll that measures the speed of the wind.

Bird's eye view – To look at something from above.

Cloud – A large group of tiny water droplets or ice crystals in the sky.

Drought – A long time with no rain.

Flood – A lot of water covering the land.

Lighting – A flash of light during a storm.

Season – There are four seasons called, spring, summer, autumn and winter.

Temperature – how hot or cold it is.

