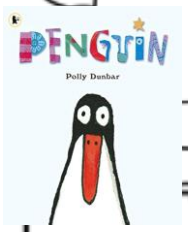
Reception Class Newsletter

13th February 2026



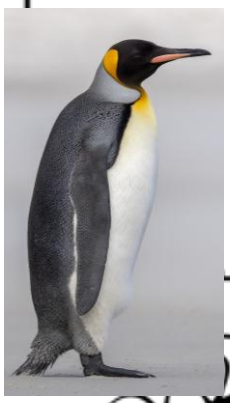
Literacy

This week we enjoyed lots of stories about penguins. *Penguin* by Polly Dunbar was our favourite. Everyone listened well and had lots to say about the characters, settings and plot.

The children enjoyed learning the penguin song and dance. Below is a link for you to enjoy it at home!
Penguin Dance | Brain Breaks | Jack Hartmann

We completed our Penguin non-fiction work labelling a photograph of a penguin using technical vocabulary.

sharp beak
powerful flippers
barrel-chested
webbed feet





Phonics

This week we have been practicing everything we have been learning in phonics this half term.
It's been Assessment Week and the children have worked hard to show off their phonic knowledge.

Please have a go at learning the tricky word using the lists that have been sent home, this really helps with confidence when reading books.
The children are so proud being able to remember these words.





Arts Week

We have been super busy this week having fun for Arts Week. The children have enjoyed singing, dancing, painting, designing, cutting and sticking.



Penguin Parade

We looked at the Bristol based artist, Holly Dutton, who likes to create animal pictures using papercraft collage, under the name *'HollyCollage'*.
All of her designs are originally created with paper clippings from upcycled magazines. Her process involves a **thoughtful selection of shades**, **careful cutting** of intricate shapes and **precise sticking** on top of her drawn design.
We made our very own penguin, in the style of HollyCollage, using magazines, floral wallpaper and different shades of blue papers. The children worked carefully cutting with pinking scissors.
Our penguins were displayed in an exhibition.





Kehinde Wiley

We looked at the famous artisit Kehinde Wiley who paints people he meets on the street. He uses bright colours, fancy patterns, and flowers to make his subjects stand out, showing they deserve to be noticed.
Reception selected the floral wallpaper they liked and then styled themselves in the modelling studio. They picked out clothing and accessories, mirroring colours within their chosen backgrounds to create their self portraits.

After half term

- In Literacy we will begin our Traditional Tales topic
- In Phonics we will be reviewing learning so far – sounds, reading words, including longer words and remembering our tricky words
- In Maths we will continue exploring 6,7,8, including odd and even numbers and doubling

Your beautiful children have been amazing this half term. We are so proud of them and can't wait for more fun and adventures in Reception after the half term break. Thanks for your continued support.
Have a fantastic week and a good rest!