

**Year group: 2**

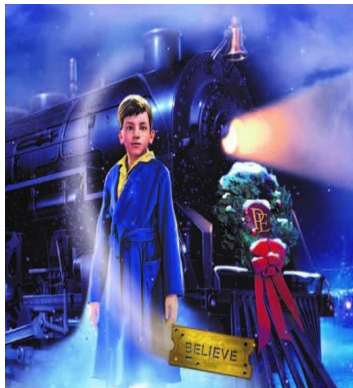
**Time Allocation:** 1/2 term

**Date: Autumn Term 2**

**Teachers:** Miss Rucroft, Mrs Martin and Miss Highgate



## The Polar Express



### WHY?

To develop knowledge and understanding about the cold regions of the world and compare this with the UK.

### Learning Together

In addition to weekly spelling, reading and Maths homework some children will need to learn words for our Christmas performance.

### Core Value:

Compassion

### S.M.S.C

We will explore what It means to live out Jesus' teaching, exemplified In the command to do to others as you would have them do to you.

### Literacy/Communication:

As communicators we will be learning to listen and respond appropriately to adults and our peers. As readers we will be reading a variety of winter themed stories including, 'The Snowman' and 'The Polar Express' to further develop our skills of fluency and comprehension. We will use these stories to inspire our imaginative writing and will be learning how to write more detailed descriptions of the characters and story settings within them. As poets we will be writing a variety of poems using our senses to describe what it would be like on an expedition to the Antarctic.

### Maths:

As mathematicians we will develop our addition and subtraction strategies building on the place value skills we learnt last half term. We will solve simple problems in a practical context involving addition and subtraction of real objects and representations. We will learn how to read, interpret and analyse picture graphs. During our science experiments we will be learning how to present our results in a simple table. We will be learning how to measure temperature using a simple thermometer when comparing the UK temperatures with the Polar regions.

### Science: Materials and their Properties

As scientists we will be investigating and testing a variety of everyday materials, including paper, cardboard, plastic, tinfoil, felt and cotton wool. In groups we will develop an experiment to find out which material would make the best insulator to keep a cup of hot chocolate warm on the Polar Express. We will discuss the importance of a fair test and use a thermometer to measure the temperature of the drinking chocolate over a period of time. We will learn how to record our results using a simple table. We will also learn about how animals adapt to extreme weather conditions.

### PE: Dance

Children will be learning how to put together a sequence of movements to a variety winter themed, songs, poems and pieces of music.

### Computing:

Children will make links with Mathematics and Art to manipulate shapes in the style of famous artists.

### Geography:

In Geography we will be identifying, naming and labelling the physical features of the polar regions including ocean, ice, iceberg, glacier and pack ice. We will use Google Earth and atlases to locate the Arctic and Antarctic. We will find out about the weather and compare it with our own in the UK.

### Art and design:

As Artists we will be completing the colour wheel challenge to identify primary and secondary colours. We will then focus on famous artists, such as Kandinsky, Mondrian and Matisse, who use mathematics to create their artwork. We will also be enjoying a variety of Christmas crafts.

### Design & Technology:

As Design Technologists we will be designing and a Polar Express train. We will look at the mechanisms involved including wheels and axels. As Food Technologists we will be designing and making our own ice-cream and polar express biscuits.

### RE: Special Books (Judaism) A Journey To Bethlehem

We will be looking at how the Torah scrolls are special to Jewish people and making links with the Christian Bible. The children will also be retelling the Christmas Story. They will learn to ask questions such as 'I wonder what Mary and Joseph talked about on their long journey to Bethlehem?'

### Music: Cold Countries and Christmas Performance

As musicians we will listen to a composition called 'Sleigh Ride' by Prokofiev and compare it to a piece of Eskimo music. We will play percussion instruments keeping a steady beat increasing and decreasing the tempo. We will be learning and performing songs for our Christmas performance.

### PSHE: Dealing with feelings

We will learn how to recognise when someone is being unkind and who to tell.

### History: Famous People

As historians we will find out about the famous explorer Robert Falcon Scott and his expedition to the Antarctic. We will also look at the history of trains and how they have changed over time.