

### Weekly Woodpecker Class News (27.1.17)

This week, in English, all of our work was linked to our topic. We developed our reading comprehension skills of retrieval and interpretation of information in different forms. We ordered captions about how Antarctica came to be located where it is today and read passages about South Pole expeditions. As part of our focus on scientific research stations (particularly Rothera on Antarctica's peninsula), we wrote in two different genres about what we would pack if we were visiting tomorrow. One genre was to explain our choice of 10 items and the other was to persuade Mrs Butcher which 4 of those items were absolutely necessary for us to take, as luggage space was limited!

In Maths this week, most of us saw great improvements in our ability to multiply with efficient written methods for arithmetic (non-context) questions. We then completed a cold arithmetic task for using efficient written methods for division (if we didn't know our times tables it was more of a struggle!). The order of operations (BIDMAS – brackets, indices (such as <sup>2</sup>, <sup>3</sup>, etc.), division, multiplication, addition, subtraction) was also revised and Year 6 investigated finding the common factors of pairs or groups of numbers.

In Topic, we looked at data from Antarctica. In particular, we used Microsoft Excel to record and represent temperature and windspeed data for the next 7 days at the South Pole, comparing it to Clipston's. We also had to interpret diary entries from scientists at the research station in Rothera to deduce which months they were writing in (it is warmer there than here at the moment....just!).

In Science, we continued our unit on 'Living Things and Their Habitats' by identifying and arranging the living things of Antarctica into a very complex food web!

We continued our separate Computing unit on 'Animation' by comparing different ways of animating story ideas. We explored using various free online software and evaluated the positives and negatives of each.

In RE, we continued our learning on how Muslims try to lead good lives by trying to represent parts of the life story of their prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) without drawing any living creatures, as it is forbidden to do this in the religion of Islam.

Elsewhere, we had an afternoon of PE or Art and watched the documentary 'March of the Penguins'.

To view regular updates and photos of some of the activities we do, visit the school's Twitter page (you do not need to be a member or follow us to see these): [www.twitter.com/ClipstonSchool](http://www.twitter.com/ClipstonSchool)

#### Homework Tasks (Year 6):

- **Reading Comprehension:** Please complete and mark the 'Hostages to Handheld Devices' task in your CGP Targeted Question Book (pgs.8&9)  
**GPS:** Complete the 'Clauses' task on pgs.12&13 of your CGP Targeted Question Book.  
*Please hand in your **marked** Reading Comprehension and GPS Targeted Question Books and Learning Log by **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February.***
- **Spelling & Punctuation:** Your dictation exercise, on some of last week's spelling words, will take place next **Friday.**
- **Multiplication facts:** A test of a variety of multiplication facts will take place on **Tuesday.** Please practise all facts up to 12 x 12.
- **Reading:** You are expected to do **at least 1 hour** of independent reading at home, **every week.** Please get a parent/carer to sign below to show that you have done this, as there is no home reading records in Woodpecker Class:

**Signature:**.....

Pupil Feedback	Parent Feedback