24th October 2018

Dear parents,

Re: term 2

As we approach half-term, our thoughts are now turning to Term 2 and our new topic, **Antarctica**! Please see the overview on the website for specific details.

This doesn't mean that we have ordered Antarctic weather – don't worry! ☺ But we find this a fascinating and enjoyable subject that the children love. The topic focusses on both history and geography, as we look at the story of Shackleton and his famous voyage of discovery on the Endurance, as well as at the incredible landscape and climate of this little-known continent.

The **homework project** will, of course, be on Antarctica. Here are some suggestions for projects: models/drawings/paintings of icebergs or the wildlife that live there; fact files/power points on Shackleton's exploration or the climate and landscape of Antarctica; models/drawings of the Endurance. But anything related to Antarctica will be welcome; the more imaginative, the better! Please can projects be brought in to school on **Monday 17th December**.

Our English writing will be based on Antarctica and will include letters and diary entries written by the crew of the Endurance, descriptive writing around Oliver Jeffers' Lost and Found, and narrative writing set on board the Endurance. Year 6 will be studying light in science next term, and year 5 will be looking at materials. Please see the curriculum overview on our website for further details of the other subjects and coverage.

On **Thursday 20th December** we will be having an end-of-topic **Dressing Up Day**, and as part of this, the children are invited to dress in blue and/or white, or in clothing with Antarctic animals on (e.g. penguins) or as an Antarctic explorer. Please note: this is **entirely optional** (and there are no polar bears in the Antarctic! ☺). Penguin onesies were quite popular the last time we did this…

We look forward to a busy but exciting term, as always. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

With kind regards,

The Year 5/6 Team