



The New Beacon

Ex Fumo • Dare • Lucem

The New Beacon

Brittains Lane, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 2PB

Tel 01732 452131 Fax 01732 459509

Email admin@newbeacon.org.uk

newbeacon.org.uk

17th January 2020

Dear Parents,

Another full and busy week with the boys. [Winter](#) is not quite here yet but it seems to be on its way and the boys have enjoyed many activities relating to it.

[Literacy](#)

This week we have recapped all the sounds that we have covered so far. We also introduced the sound 'ch' and words that start and end with this. [Digraph](#) is the term we use with the boys; two letters that represent one sound.

Next week the sound will be 'sh'. Please do encourage your son to bring in something that starts with this sound. Remember its shhhhhhhh not sh-er!

We have now started more formal [handwriting sessions](#) and have looked at the 'curly caterpillar' letters 'c' and 'o'. I have sent home the sheets we did in class for the boys to practise. Please ensure they start each letter at the top (the 'o' starts at the number 2 on a clock) and go anti-clockwise. They could then practice writing some on the reverse of the sheet. Please pay particular attention to the consistency of the letter sizing. Thank you.

[Mathematics](#)

We have introduced 'position' this week and have focused on the language associated with this such as above, below, beside, next to, under, over, opposite, in front of, behind, between, left, right etc. The boys have been following positional instructions in a range of activities. They had to arrange toys on a shelf in the correct way, they had to colour squares in a grid according to specific instructions and draw a picture in accordance with verbal instructions. As well as knowing the associated language they also had to listen to the instructions which some found tricky!

We have also found [different ways to make 12](#) using the Numicon tiles. Next week we will be looking at [weight](#).

[Physical Development](#)

The boys have Rugby this term and from what they told us they all enjoyed it. They are enjoying their Swimming sessions and working well to develop their skills both on top and under the water!

It has been lovely to see some of the weaker swimmers being braver this term. The boys are split into 2 groups which enables the more able swimmers to swim more in each lesson. The focus is always on technique for those that can swim well and not just about simply swimming.

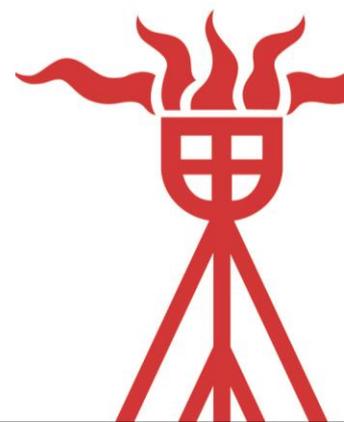
[Personal, Social and Emotional \(PSE\)](#)

We started the week with an Assembly about 'Janus', the Roman God of beginnings and transitions, who is depicted as having two faces, since he looks to the future and to the past. We linked this with the start of the New Year and how we can reflect on last year and look forwards, to this year. We talked about [setting targets](#) for this term and beyond, related to the targets written in their reports. We have also recapped our class and school rules and we talked in our PSE session about why it is important to consider the needs and feelings of others.



Headmaster M R Piercy BA (Hons)

The New Beacon Educational Trust Ltd. Company No. 951855. Registered Charity No. 307925.

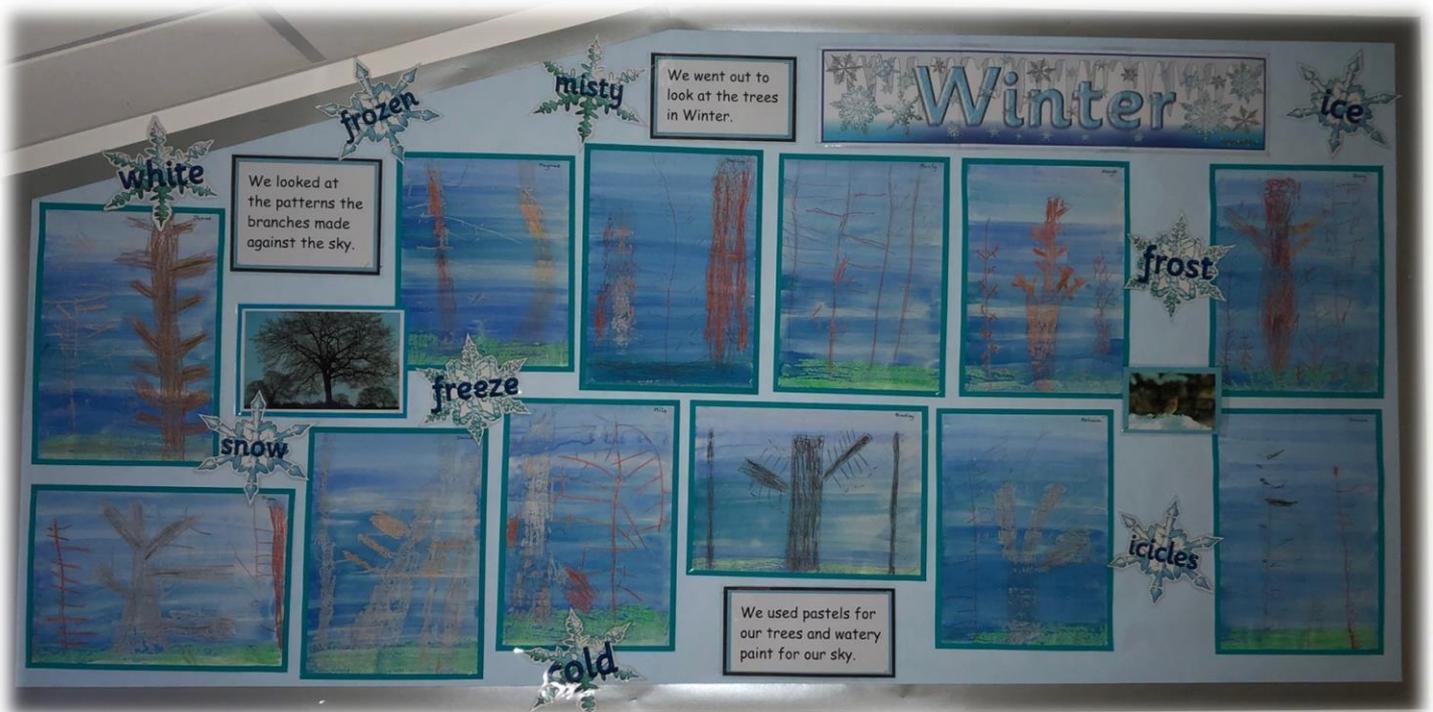




Winter

We have talked a lot about **Winter** and the types of things we associate with Winter. The boys wrote about what 'Winter Brings' and included such words as snow, snowflakes, snowmen, wind, rain, cold, frost, icicles etc. They also illustrated their writing with a wintery picture.

We have discussed the seasonal changes as we move from Autumn to Winter. We saw and identified many deciduous and evergreen trees around the school and discussed why some trees lose their leaves and why others don't. We have thought about the types of weather we have in winter and have discussed the ways in which people, animals and birds cope with the colder weather.



Boy of the Week

Each week, during our Library session, we will choose a boy to receive the 'Boy of the Week' trophy. This Trophy will come home with the winner on the Friday and will need to be returned in time for the following Friday to be re-awarded.

The Trophy will be awarded for good behaviour, good manners, good listening, trying hard, being a caring and helpful member of the class etc rather than academic achievement. This week's winner isMagnus. Well done.



Our Topic

Over the next 4 weeks we will be focusing on the **animals and people that live in cold countries**. The boys are sponges for facts and we are sure they will enjoy learning about the **Arctic** and **Antarctic**. If you have any books or DVDs or any other resources you could bring to school to further our learning it would be much appreciated. Many thanks.





The New Beacon

Ex Fumo · Dare · Lucem

Emojis

The Central Area displays are ready to be changed and the theme is 'Joy'. After much thought and discussion we decided to think about the sorts of things that make the boys happy. Their answers were extremely varied: eating, spiders, computers, sweets, dinosaurs, jujitsu, playing with friends or siblings, racing cars and motorbikes!

We then thought it would be fun for each boy to create their own happy 'Emoji'. As you can imagine the boys loved doing this. We used a paper plate as the base which the boys covered in a variety of yellow materials. They then had to cut out the eyes and mouth and any other features they wanted and then stick them on. As you can see from the photo below they have done a fantastic job.



General Information

Please note there are still a few boys who do not have fleeces, gloves or hats in school. Please can you ensure that they are in school on Monday. Thank you.

We have also noticed that most of the boys are still unable to use cutlery correctly. Please can you reinforce the correct use of a knife and a fork at home. Many thanks.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mr Braidwood and Mrs Puller

Headmaster M R Piercy BA (Hons)

The New Beacon Educational Trust Ltd. Company No. 951855. Registered Charity No. 307925.

