

January 2026

Welcome a new term in Foundation Stage at Modbury Primary School.



We are really excited to start a brand new term with us and know they will continue to have lots of fun in our class.

During this term our topic is **Polar Explorers**. Have you ever wanted to go on an adventure? In this topic, we will find out what it is to be a polar explorer, discovering what it is like in the polar regions. We will find out what animals live there, who has explored in the past, what the climate is like.

English:

In English, we will be developing our reading and writing skills. We will be spelling Phase 2 sounds and using them in our writing. We will be writing sentences about our story book Poles Apart and linked with our topic.

Maths:

In Maths, we will be developing a deep understanding of numbers to 10. The children will be practising their subitising skills and exploring how these numbers can be made up and learning number bonds. We will be exploring pattern and looking for examples in the world around us.

Phonics:

In phonics, we will be looking at phase 3 sounds – we are using the Little Wandle phonic scheme to guide our teaching of phonics, there are some great resources and useful videos in the parent section of their website. Please take a look for further information.

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Phonic Sound cards:

Every week we will learn new sounds in our phonics sessions. A sheet, including the new sounds we will be learning, will be stuck into your child's reading record (on a Monday) so you are aware of the phonic sounds your child will be learning during the week. We will also be including some phonic cards for these sounds every Monday. These will be put into your

child's bookbag. Please read the sheet and use the sound cards at home to consolidate and reinforce their learning. Any questions about the sounds, please ask us.

A few other things...

We will be continuing to do PE on a Tuesday, as last term, not Friday as stated in this week's memo. Please make sure your child's PE kit is in school on that day, the children can leave this bag on their peg throughout the week and take it home for washing on a Friday, if needed. During the winter, it would be great if you can include long joggers and a jumper to ensure the children stay warm if we have an outdoor PE lesson.

Snack:

We do have fruit provided for snack however some children prefer to bring in a snack from home. Your child is encouraged to bring a small, **healthy snack** such as a piece of fruit to have during **morning break**. Please label any plastic containers with your child's name on it. Can we remind you that grapes need to be cut in half lengthways to prevent choking. Thank you.

Individual Reading:

As last term, your child's reading book will be sent home every Monday. This is the book they will be reading throughout that week at school and at home. We will read this book a few times during the week, so please can you bring it into school everyday, in your child's bookbag. Please feel free to comment and sign when you have read with your child in the blue reading record book. You will also see comments about how your child is getting on with their reading at school with us, towards the end of each week. We will change the books once a week – on a Monday. Familiarity with the same book helps to build the children's confidence with reading. At this stage, the idea would be to share the book and identify the sounds that they recognise and discuss the main events of the story. Modelling fluency and expression is useful to help them at this stage. Any questions, please just ask.

Forest School:

The children will continue to have a session of Forest School every Wednesday with Achieve 4 All. The children will be outside in our exciting, woodland area and will take part in lots of activities. **The children need to come to school in their forest school clothes. Children will require welly boots, waterproof clothing (coat and trousers) and another pair of shoes to wear inside the classroom. Please ensure this is weather appropriate as we move into the winter term.**

Finally ...

We would like to open our door to you, both if you have any questions or queries, and if you have any resources, skills, or experiences that could help us on our learning journey. Please do not hesitate to come and see us.

Many thanks

Mrs Ratcliffe, Miss Worthington and Mrs Searle