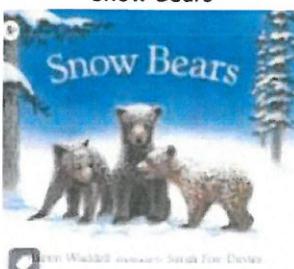
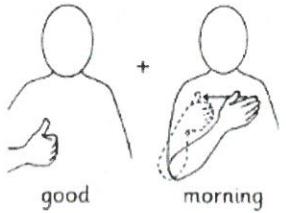


This week in Chestnut

We are here to help. If you have any questions or concerns, please talk to your child's keyworker or any of the staff.

Book of the week:	Rhyme of the week:	Sign of the week:	Happy Thought of the week:
Snow Bears 	The Bear Went Over the Mountain 	Good/ Good morning 	 <p><i>"Kindness is like snow – it beautifies everything it covers."</i> - Khalil Gibran</p>

Maths

We will be:

- Playing a snowball subitising game, where children quickly look at a small number of "snowballs" (cotton wool balls) and try to say how many they saw without counting.
- Helping the Snow Bears share their snowballs fairly between bowls, practising one-to-one correspondence and noticing when each group has the same amount.

Phonics Phase 1 Aspect 4 – Rhythm & Rhyme

We will be:

- Reading *Humpty Dumpty* and listening carefully for rhyming words like *wall/fall*.
- Talking about how rhyming words sound the same at the end and repeating the pairs slowly to help children hear the pattern.
- Playing a rhyming match game using picture cards (e.g. *wall/ball*, *hen/ten*, *hat/cat*) and encouraging children to say the words aloud and find the matching rhyming pairs.
- Playing a clapping game to break words into syllables, clapping once for each part of the word (e.g. *ba-na-na* = 3 claps).

Learning Opportunities

We will be:

- Making toast whilst observing and talking about change.
- Engaging in cooperative play through polar small world play and storytelling.
- Using large arm movements to make marks in sensory snow using our fingers. Children will be encouraged to begin to notice and describe their marks, saying what they represent (e.g. "snow," "bear").
- Engaging in symbolic play using teddies to represent ourselves and our family members. We will explore ideas of cold and warmth using fabric, scarves, and white materials to create snowy environments.
- Using soft shakers and bells to represent falling snow whilst moving gently like snowflakes to music.

Help at Home

Build a cosy den!

This week, we will be reading *The Snow Bears* and *That's Not My Polar Bear*, exploring how bears stay warm in cold, snowy weather. At home, you and your child could build a cosy winter den together — just like the bears in the story! Inside the den, you could:

- Add teddy bears or soft toys to play with.
- Bring in a torch and enjoy reading stories together inside.
- Talk about how the den feels — is it warm, dark, soft, cosy?
- Pretend the weather is cold outside and talk about how bears keep warm.
- Play gentle music or bring in some winter-themed books for a calm reading space.

This supports your child's imagination, language development, and understanding of winter routines.

Dates for your diary:

- WC 19th January - We are Artists week
- Wednesday 21st January - Salt Pots visit
- Wednesday 28th January - Grandparents Stay & Play