Lent Year 1 topic-

Antarctica

This term the year one topic is themed around the frozen continent, Antarctica. The children will be learning about its location, key historical people associated with it, polar animals and geographical features.

Antarctica is one of the 7 continents. It is furthest south		
and is known as the frozen continent as it is covered in		
surface ice. It is unique in that it has no countries but		
instead is made up of territories.		

Antarctica

Key dates/people		
350 B.C.	The ancient Greeks	
	predicted there must be an	
	icy land in the south to	
	balance the world. They	
	never visited.	
1773	James Cook sails around	
	Antarctica. He never spots	
	land but sees some rock in	
	the waters so assumes its	
	existence.	
1819-21	Russian, American and	
	British explorers are the	
	first to claim they have	
	seen the land of Antarctica.	
1821	The first landing in	
	Antarctica. A group of	
	explorers became stranded	
	and spent the winter on	
	the continent.	
1909	Douglas Mawson reaches	
	the South Pole.	

Antarctica has no native people. There are two groups of people who visit Antarctica and those are scientists and tourists. The children will be comparing this to the UK which has a population of 65million.

Key words- children should be aware of the following.

Continent	A collection of land masses/ countries.	
Territory	An area of land claimed by a country.	
Expedition	A journey to discover more about a place.	
North Pole	The most Northern point of the Earth.	
South Pole	The most Southern point of the Earth.	
Temperature	Hot/Cold	
Population	How many people live there.	
Season	4 seasons of the year- Spring, Winter,	
	Summer, Autumn.	

Some of the key animal types in Antarctica. Highly recommend watching the documentary Frozen Planet if the children develop interest.

Penguins



Whales and dolphins

