



# Year 1 Newsletter



We are going to be **Nature Detectives**

Spring term

Our topics this term are '**Wild Things** and '**Carnival of the Animals**'

## English

We are going to be looking at the features of non-fiction texts and use information books and online resources linked to our topics. We will be making our own information pages. We will be reading stories with imaginary settings. We will enjoy poetry and use descriptive language when writing our own poems. We continue with Read Write Inc. to develop reading and writing.

### Activities to help your child at home;

- Look for **ed**, **ing**, **er** and **est** word endings when reading. Can they spell these words?
- Write sentences using 'and' to link ideas.
- Use information books to find facts.



## Mathematics

We will be reading and writing numbers from 1 to 20+ in numerals and words. We will count up in different steps (2's, 5's and 10's). We will revise number bonds up to 20 and use this to solve simple missing number problems. We will use mental strategies and number lines to add and subtract. We will look at  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{4}$  of shapes and make different turns. We will answer questions involving measure or money.

### Activities to help your child at home;

- Practise number bonds ( $4 + ? = 10$  or  $3 + ? = 7$ )
- Folding paper shapes to find  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{4}$  and looking for fractions in everyday life (pizza)
- Use coins to make different totals up to 20p.

## Creative Curriculum

We will be going undercover to research the plant and animal life on Earth with the main focus on rainforests. We will identify the continents. We will find out about different creatures and we will be going on a visit to Chester Zoo in January. We sort animals into groups using scientific terms. We will make comparisons between the Wirral and a distant place. In RE, we will think about new beginnings including Chinese New Year. We will produce artwork using colour mixing and collage. We learn about keeping safe online. In PE we cover team games and gymnastics.



# Nature Detectives



### Activities to help your child at home;

- Use the internet with guidance to find out about different animals.
- Discuss which creatures might be found in the garden, park, woods?
- Sort plastic animals into groups (birds, fish, mammals etc.).
- Look at the names of different fruits and vegetables in the shop and see where they come from.
- Plant a seed and watch it grow - can they measure each day and keep a plant diary?

## Thinking and Learning Skills in Year 1

We encourage the children to be a **team player**. They will work together and learn to negotiate to solve problems in class. We hope they can be an effective **participator** in all tasks and **listen** to other pupils' ideas and opinions. To support your child at home, you could talk about the similarities and differences between their life and the lives of others and the impact this has.

