

Welcome back, we hope you all had a lovely Half Term break and managed to have fun despite the changeable weather.

I has been lovely to see big smiles on the children's faces as they return to school ready for a fun and busy half term. To support the children's learning our classrooms have the addition of a "Vets" role play area where they can look after poorly animal teddies. We imagine there will soon be lots of them covered in bandages and plasters.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to come and speak to one of us.

Mrs Housden, Mrs Green and Mrs Phillips



## **Dates for the diary:**

**5**<sup>th</sup> **March** – World Book Day

WB 9th March - Sports/Science Week

17<sup>th</sup> March – Inter-House Athletics Competition

**19**th **March** – FOPS Mothering Sunday Present Room

20th March - Mothering Sunday Worship & Lunch

24th March - Parents Evening 5pm - 8pm

25th March – Parents Evening 4pm to 7.30pm

27th March - FOPS Bingo Night

1st April – Easter Worship & FOPS Egg Competition

1st April - Last Day of Spring Term

20th April - Summer Term Starts

This half term our theme is 'Paws, Claws & Whiskers'. We will be finding out lots about household pets, big cats and zoo animals. Keep your eyes peeled for information about a visiting Vet to our class.



In **English** we will be writing our own animal stories based on the Just So Stories. We will use the text "The Tiger that came to Tea" as basis for writing recounts from a differing point of view. Finally we will write instructions on how to be a zoo keeper.

In our **Science** lessons we will be looking at different features of animals and humans and why they are needed, food chains and what animals need in order to survive both in the wild and in a zoo.

**In PSHE**, we will be thinking about the amazing nature of our bodies, developing a respect for themselves and their own personal hygiene. We will also cover "Growing Up", thinking about how responsibilities change as they age.

In Geography, we will be looking at maps and globes, learning where different animals come from and creating our own zoo map based on the knowledge we have of animals. In our Art & Design technology sessions we will be making an enclosure for an animal based on its needs and sketching and drawing animals based on an artist while adding in detail using different techniques. In Music we will be singing animal songs & experimenting with our voices to make animal sounds.

In **Maths**, we will be reinforcing our addition and subtraction knowledge before moving on to finding fractions (halves & quarters) of shapes and quantities. We will finish off the half term by improving our recognition of coins and solving money problems.

**In outdoor P.E** we are going to be learning the skills of tennis and **in indoor P.E** we are going to be improving our Gymnastics skills in a unit call Jumping Jacks. We will be creating movement phrases, with and without apparatus, linking jumping actions.

Our P.E. days are Wednesday (Beech) or Thursday (Maple) and Friday. Please ensure children have full P.E. Kit (including outdoor wear) in school. P.E. Kits will be sent home at the end of each half term.

## Some Year 1 routines & reminders:

Children are expected to read to an adult 5 times a week at home. Reading records will be checked on a Monday morning to complete reading reward raffle. If a child needs to change their reading book their book and record needs to be placed in the appropriate place within the classroom. Books will then be changed that day.

Home learning books will be collected in on a Thursday and sent out on a Friday with new home learning tasks. Home learning books should be in school every day as a communication device. If there is a note that you would like an adult to read and respond to, please ask your child to put their book in the tray. We will do our best to respond on the same day.

**Spellings** will be set on a Friday and **tested on the following Friday.** We will aim to record the score from spelling tests in the home learning books.

Please ensure children have a **water bottle** in school as this is more easily accessible than using the water fountain during learning times. School water bottles are available from the office.