## Spring 1 Newsletter

# Reception

## 8<sup>th</sup> January

This half term we will become international explorers to discover the different environments and habitats that animals live in. We will find the Arctic on a map and then we will find out what it is like to live there. The children will find out which animals live there by reading a book called 'Poles Apart.' They will explore how to melt ice and will make an ice mobile. Fingers crossed for cold weather and snow!

#### 22<sup>nd</sup> January

This week will be all about farm animals. We will read the story 'Farmer Duck' and will draw a picture to show what happens and will try and write a caption to go with it. We will name all the animals and find out what food we get from animals. We will explore the jobs that farmers do and the food that they grow. We will plan some food that we could grow.

## 29<sup>th</sup> January

#### <u>African Animals – Chester Zoo Visit.</u>

This week we will be finding out all about African animals. We will read the story 'Handa's Surprise'. And as well as finding out about the animals and where they live, we will also taste the fruit that each animal steals from Handa's basket. We will spot some of the animals from the story on our trip to Chester Zoo (more details to follow!). We will finish the week by making a fruit smoothie.

## 15<sup>th</sup> January

Welcome to the Jungle! This week we will be exploring jungle animals. We will focus on animal patterns, identifying animals from their footprints, body patterns and number of legs. In science we will 'collect' different sounds from various animals to make a sound bank to identify animals from their calls. We will find out where jungles are on a map of the world and what the environment is like. We will read the story 'Giraffe's Can't Dance' and as we talk about what has happened, the children will draw a picture of one of the animals and label it. The children will practise drawing and painting animals, looking carefully at their features, colours, and patterns.



Miss S Wright Teacher



St Martin's CE Primary School



Miss N Jones
Teaching Assistant

## 5<sup>th</sup> February

Minibeast Mayhem! This week we will explore the outside area and forest area, looking for minibeasts. We will read the book 'Mad About Minibeasts' and will try and find one of each of the insects from each rhyme. We will carefully collect some minibeasts and will look at them through a magnifying glass so that we can talk about their features.

We will end the week and our animal topic, with 'An Amazing Animal Adventure Day' where all children will be invited to come to school dressed as an animal of their choosing. We will complete animal challenges to show off all of our new animal knowledge!

#### Maths

In Maths, the children will continue to practise counting and will become secure with counting to 20. They will explore composition of numbers to 10, learning which 2 numbers add together to make 10. We will be acting out addition and then subtraction maths stories. We will be using the language of size, such as tall, short, taller, shorter. They will also create their own repeating patterns.

#### **Phonics**

This term the children will continue their RWI journey. Some children will move on to 'Dittys'. They will bring their Ditty home each week to practise. Some children will continue to learn their set 1 sounds as well as learning how to blend. Each week a link to our learning in class will be sent home via Marvellous Me so that the children can reinforce the learning that they are doing.

#### Information

PE is on a **Monday**. Please send children to school in their PE kits.

Children will visit the library on a **Monday** please make sure that their books are in school on that day.