

## What are we learning about this half term?

In **Literacy**, the Key Stage 1 children are initially focusing on understanding the differences between fiction and non-fiction texts. We will read books about tigers, whales, sharks and polar bears, moving on to read, answer and write questions and produce factual texts ourselves.

After that, the children will focus on 'character' and write character profiles for a future creative write. Stories by Ed Vere will form the backbone of reading for understanding and stimulating creative writing. The Reception children will continue their 'Drawing Club' work. We will move on to gently encourage children to write labels and short phrases linked to the chosen text.

In **Geography**, we are considering world weather and identifying the location of hot and cold areas of the world in relation to the Equator & the North & South Poles.

In **Science** this term, we are studying animals including humans. We will focus on our similarities and differences, body part and our senses.

In **Maths**, the Reception children will become more familiar with numbers 0-5. We will delve more deeply into these numbers, subitising (instantly recognising the number of objects in a group without counting), representing, looking at the composition of numbers 0-5 (recognising that all numbers are made up of smaller numbers) and focusing on 'one more' and 'one less'. The Year 1s and Year 2s will revisit place value. To do so, in Conkers, we enjoy using a 'CPA' approach - first we work with the concrete as a group on the carpet - we play with resources together and bring maths to life so that children can make sense of concepts through physical manipulation. After that, we work with pictorial representations, making links to the concrete enabling children to visualise a problem. Finally, we work in the abstract and problem solving using all our knowledge in different, more challenging manners.

In **Computing**, we will introduce children to data and information. Labelling, grouping, and searching are important aspects of data and information. Searching is a common operation in many applications, and requires an understanding that to search data, it must have labels. This unit of work focuses on children assigning data (images) with different labels in order to demonstrate how computers are able to group and present data.

Our **two PE focuses** this half term are tag rugby with Mrs Bennett on a Tuesday. On Wednesday afternoons, Mrs Mitchell will be dusting off her old ballroom costumes and teaching the children dance.

In **Design and Technology**, the children will be learning about textiles, sewing and fashioning their very own bookmarks.

In **R.E**, the Reception children will be basing their learning around the key question of: 'Which people are special and why?', whilst the Key Stage One children will focus their learning on the key question of: 'Who is a Christian and what do they believe?'

In **Personal, Social, Emotional Development (PSED)**, the focus is 'dreams and goals'. The Reception (EYFS) will focus specifically on: challenges, perseverance, goal-setting, overcoming obstacles, seeking help, jobs and achieving goals. They will learn these skills through small group activities as well as learning through play in the various areas of learning in the classroom. Year 1 and 2 will focus specifically on: achieving realistic goals, perseverance, learning strengths, learning with others, group co-operation and contributing to and sharing success.

In **Music**, we will be learning how to play the ocarina. We will learn how to hold and blow the instrument and learn to play some pieces using several pitches. We will explore long and short sounds. Additionally, we will sing some songs to develop not only our vocal and performance skills but exploring the benefits of singing and the fun we can have coordinating both dance moves and actions to the songs.

As French linguists we will be recalling the months in French. We will link these to the four seasons and learn vocabulary for different types of weather. We will be using our listening, speaking, reading and writing skills alongside singing songs.