



# Warton St Paul's

Church of England Primary Academy

A member of **CDARI**

## Opal Class Spring Term One Newsletter

We hope you all had a good Christmas break. Welcome to a new half term in Reception. We have lots of exciting things to look forward to this half term including a trip to find out more about animals.

Our theme this half term is **Amazing animals!**



We will be learning about different animals and where they live. We will be looking at mini beasts and jungle animals. At forest school, we will be going on bug hunts and making bug houses. We will also be looking at the change of season to Winter and how this impacts on some animals and their habitats.

### RE

This half term in RE we will be learning about stories Jesus told.



#### *Key Questions*

*Where will you find the stories which Jesus told?*

*To whom did he tell these stories?*

*What do the stories teach us?*

*Why did Jesus tell stories?*

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will be finding out about how we can be our best. We will be thinking about how we can carry on when things go wrong and talk about resilience. We will be thinking about healthy eating and exercise.

We will also be thinking about how we can keep our minds healthy.

### Physical Development

Mr Evans will be teaching PE for us every Tuesday Afternoon and Friday Morning.

**Remember you can come to school in PE kits on these days. Black joggers and jumpers are recommended during January and February.**

### Communication and Language

Our focus this half term will be 'Tell me why!' We will be asking and answering questions. We will be telling stories with story language and new vocabulary. We will also be learning and reciting new songs and rhymes like incy wincy spider and the ants go marching.



### Literacy - Reading

We will be starting phase 3 phonics. This is where we begin to learn sounds that have two or three letters that together make one sound.

Please read every night and write a comment in their reading journal. Children are read with most days at school as well. They will also have three words each week that they are practising to read on sight. Please look at reading books and words at home each evening and bring them back to school the next day.

### Literacy - Writing

We will be continuing with dough disco and funky fingers activities to strengthen the muscles in our hands for writing.

We will be working on writing simple sentences for different purposes this half term. We will be using simple two and three letter words with sounds we have learnt. We will be practising saying the sentence, writing it and reading it back.



### Maths

We will be singing lots of counting songs and using objects to visualise the song.

We will be learning number bonds to 5 by heart and practising recalling these quickly. This will include both addition and subtraction. We will also be looking at comparing mass and capacity.

### Understanding the World

We will be learning about different animals and groups of animals. We will be using a world map to locate areas of the world where different animals live. We will be comparing habitats and finding out why certain animals live there.



### Expressive Art and Design

We will be looking at the artwork of Henri Rousseau and using some of his techniques to develop our own animal art.

This half term it will be Chinese New Year. We will be using this as a stimulus to make lanterns and we will be listening to Chinese music to begin to compose our own. We will also be working collaboratively to create a shadow puppet theatre to retell stories.

### Home-School Partnership

#### **Things to remember to bring to school every day**

Book bag, reading record and book, water bottle and a change of clothes (where needed).

#### **Daily Home Learning**

School reading book and sight words to be read every night and journal signed by an adult.

#### **Weekly learning journey book looks**

Parents will be invited into the classroom on a Friday just before the end of the day to look through your child's learning journey with them.

#### **Half Termly Home Learning**

Each half term your child will receive some different open-ended project tasks to be completed by a given date. The projects will be based on the topics we are doing in class and will be designed so that they can be completed together.

And finally ... The education of your child is a partnership between you and us. Please contact us if you have any worries or concerns about your child or feel there is something we need to be aware of. If you cannot see us at school, we can be contacted via the school office.

Here's to a great half term!  
Mrs Fisher