



## Christ Church Church of England Primary School Curriculum Newsletter

*"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."*  
1 Peter 4: 10

**Welcome to the Spring 1 edition of the Curriculum News where our theme is 'Animal habitats'. We hope that you will find it useful and informative. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher if you have any questions regarding the curriculum this half term.**

### Important information

- P.E. will take place on **Monday** and **Friday**. Please ensure your child is in full P.E kit with long hair tied back and **no earrings**.
- Our next stay and play session will take place on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February at 2:20pm** themed around **'emotional regulation.'**
- Please continue to check book bags daily for further information and learning tasks relating to phonics.
- Please continue to read together at home, recording comments in the yellow reading diary.

### Communication and language

This half term we are building on children's ability to take turns when communicating with their peers and other adults. We will explore new language relating to animal habitats using key texts and real experiences. We will practise asking questions about animal habitats and use sentence stems to build statements. **We would like children to bring a show and tell object relating to animal habitats this half term.**

### Physical development

In our fundamental skill PE session (Monday), we will focus on developing strength, balance and coordination in games which require team collaboration and partner activities. We will use a range of equipment such as: balls, beanbags, hoops and targets to develop these skills. During our Friday dance sessions, we will learn a dance with Miss Helen (specialist teacher) in preparation for our Spring dance showcase. Look out for dates and further information about this performance in the weekly newsletter.

### Personal, social and emotional

We will deepen our understanding of emotional literacy by linking our feelings to events and learning how to regulate ourselves with the help and support of our caregivers. More information about emotional regulation will be available in the stay and play session. Our PSHE will complement our learning in this prime area.

### Literacy

In our daily phonics lesson, we will continue to learn the Level 3 sounds. **Please check bookbags regularly** for the help at home phonics resource so that you can continue to support phonics. We will continue to use handwriting sessions to form our lower and upper case letters correctly. We will apply our phonics skills to writing sentences. Our daily story time and drawing club activity will complement our 'animal habitats' theme using core texts such as: 'The Emperor's Egg', 'The penguin who wanted to find out', 'My journey', 'Giraffes can't dance', 'Rumble in the Jungle' and a wide range of non-fiction texts.



### Mathematics

We will focus on counting and comparing two groups of numbers using language such as: 'greater than, less than.' We will partition numbers up to ten into multiple parts. We will continue to explore the properties of 2D shape and describe and continue simple patterns. **Please continue to use the numicon home pack to explore number bonds at home.**



### RE

Our Questful RE theme for this half term is 'Friendship.' We will explore our big question: **What makes a good friend?** We will learn that Christians consider themselves to be friends of Jesus and that He had 12 special friends called disciples. By the end of this unit, children will have shared their own experiences of friendship and be able to recall some Christian bible stories about Jesus and his friends.



### Understanding the world

We will explore similarities and differences between the natural world around us and contrasting environments, such as polar habitats. We will use stories about animals from contrasting habitats and a **class trip to the butterfly house (Date TBC)** to make comparisons. We will learn about important processes and changes in the natural world around us, including the seasons and changing states of matter

### Expressive arts and design

We will represent our understanding of animal habitats through creative processes including painting, collage and 3D sculpting using modelling clay and playdoh. We will learn to sing a range of animal habitat songs from:  
[https://www.bigeyedowl.co.uk/show\\_songs.php?t=1](https://www.bigeyedowl.co.uk/show_songs.php?t=1)



### PSHE

Our SCARF theme this half term is **'Rights and Responsibilities.'** We will learn how to care for our friends and family including helping out our grown-ups at home. We will also explore how we can care for our world and how our actions as humans affect our planet and the animal habitats around the globe.