



Year 1 – Topic Letter

WILD THINGS



Dear Parents and Carers,

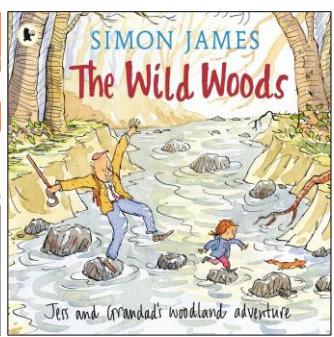
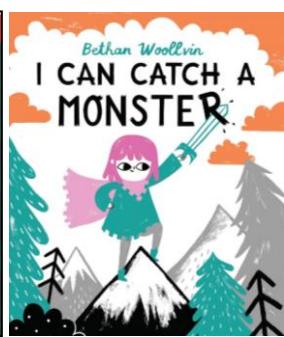
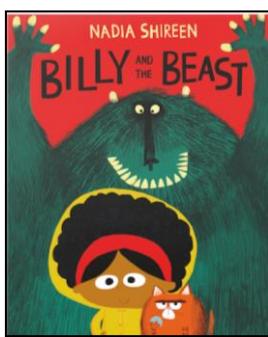
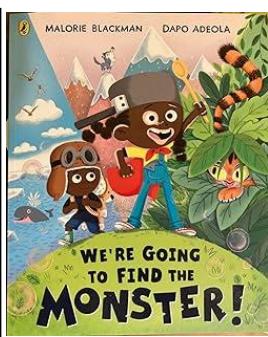
Welcome back to school and Happy New Year. I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable break.

This term, Margaret will continue to teach Geography, History, and RE on Tuesday mornings during my planning and preparation time until later in the term, when Ruth Hanfling returns from maternity leave and will cover my PPA on Wednesday mornings. We will also continue to have Hazel supporting the children in class.

Our topic this term is **Wild Things**.

The children will explore a range of books to inspire them to write their own narratives. They have made fantastic progress with their writing this term, demonstrating greater confidence and independence. We will continue to build on this progress, focusing on developing their understanding of story structure. The children will write stories with a clear beginning, middle, and end, incorporating problems and solutions, and exploring morals in stories. We will also work on expanding their vocabulary to make their writing more engaging.

Key texts for the topic include;



Reading

Please continue to read to and with your child every day. Remember they can swap their 'real books' at any point throughout the week. Guided reading books will be changed once a week. Please check the door as some children have changed reading groups so may be on a different day this term. Please make sure book-bags are at school every day and do your very best to look after books that are sent home and ensure they are returned. Each book cost around £6.00 and if one goes missing from a set, we are not able to use the book with another group of children. We are unable to send home new books until the old ones are returned.

When reading with your child, remember they have had the book with us over three sessions. They have practised the different letter sounds and tricky words in the book. By the time they

bring them home to read to you, they should be able to read it fluently. Please celebrate them being able to read it.

In **History**, we will learn about famous authors and naturalists throughout time, including David Attenborough. Children will find out about key events in their lives and what they are most famous for. The focus in **Science** this term is animals. Children will learn about common types of animals, such as; mammals, reptiles, birds and amphibians. They will find out about carnivores, herbivores and omnivores and how to group animals according to their different characteristics. Children will also visit London Zoo. We will start our **Art** this term by creating large paintings of wild imaginary creatures created by the children. We will also practise our drawing and printmaking skills this term. In **Design Technology**, we will focus on building structures as well as finishing our marble maze games from last term. In **Geography**, we will compare the UK to another non-European country, as well as simple field work and maps.

In **Maths** we will continue to follow the White Rose programme.

We will continue to become secure with addition and subtraction to 20 and place value with numbers to 50. For measurement, we will learn about length and height as well as weight and volume.

This term we will continue to have **PE** on Mondays with coach Keely. Children should wear comfortable clothing and trainers.

Important Dates

Wednesday 28th January – Maths Open Morning from 9.00

Wednesday 11th February – Trip to October Gallery 9.15-12.30 **Parent volunteers and packed lunch required**

Thursday 5th March – World Book Day

17th - 19th March – Parent Meetings after school

Friday 20th March – Year One Class Assembly

Monday 23rd March – London Zoo - ZooTown **Parent volunteers and packed lunch required**

Help at Home

- Practise number bonds to 10 and 20.
- Practise counting in 2s, 5s and 10s.
- Helping them to tell the time by knowing o'clock and half past.
- Playing board games and doing jigsaws at home is a great way to extend the children's topic learning, as well as improving maths, strategy, problem solving and coordination skills.
- Encouraging your child to use finger spaces, capital letters and full stops when writing.

Kind regards,

Rachel Webb

