



Year 1 Learning Leaflet

Paws, Claws and Whiskers 2026

Starting off the new year, we will be looking at all things animals. We will explore a range of animals, developing our understanding of their habitats and diets, and create some amazing animal artwork!



Key Dates

Tiger Who Came to Tea Party – Fri 9th Jan 2026

Animals UK Visitor – Wed 14th Jan 2026

Topic showcase – Tues 10th Feb 2026.

Break the Rules Day and Interim Reports – Friday 13th Feb.



Science

This half-term in Science we will be focusing on the topic '**Animals, including humans**'. The children will be conducting research into a range of common and exotic animals, identifying, classifying and grouping them, noticing some similarities and differences. Children will learn about the 5 animal groups, mammals, fish, reptiles, birds and amphibians, and learn about the characteristics of each one. Children will learn key vocabulary including carnivore, herbivore and omnivore.



PSHE

PSHE – All our PSHE learning this half-term will be around the theme 'Keeping Myself Safe'.

Key Vocabulary will include - Emotions, Exercise, Harmful, Healthy, Loss, Medicine, Responsibility, Sleep.

Topic

Our focus this half term will be **Art and Design**. Through creating a range of animal artwork, we will be looking at the skills –

- Using a range of materials creatively to design and make artwork.
- Develop a wide range of art and design techniques in using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space.
- Learn about the work of the artist Banksy, describing similarities and differences between different pieces of artwork.

Reading/Phonics

This half-term we will continue to develop a love of reading. We will also continue to build our phonetic knowledge through our daily phonics sessions and develop our blending skills to read both real and alien words. In reading club, we will be focusing upon prediction and retrieval skills to develop our comprehension of the texts we are reading.

Writing

This half-term in English we will be exploring the texts **The Tiger Who Came to Tea** by Judith Kerr and **Monkey Puzzle** by Julia Donaldson. We will continue to use 'think it, say it, write it, check it' approach to write sentences that have capital letters, full stops, finger spaces, and use phonics for spelling. We will be challenging ourselves to describe characters in the text using adjectives, and furthermore compare characters using the -est/-er suffixes.



PE

Indoor PE – Climbing Wall or Dance

Outdoor PE – Invasion Games