We hope that your child is happy and has settled well into Year 1. Please feel free to come and see us if you have any questions or concerns.

This newsletter will let you know a little bit about what your child will be learning this term.

We have two main topics this term:

- Hungry, Hungry Animals!
- Polar Lands

For more dates and information please see our website:
www.stmarksprimary.net
**‘Hungry, Hungry Animals’**

This will be our topic for the first half term.
In Science we will be learning about animals including humans. We will be exploring our senses, identifying body parts and classifying animals in different ways.
We will use the story of ‘The Very Hungry Caterpillar’ for our work on colour mixing in art and as a starting point when we make vegetable kebabs in D&T. The children will learn how to log onto our school network, open and close programmes and save their work in Computing.
In English, we will be learning about labels and captions and using our writing skills to retell stories, including ‘The Enormous Turnip’.

**Maths**

This half term we will practise counting, reading and writing of numbers within 20. We will develop our problem solving skills using our different resources and the children will develop the independence to choose their own resources. They will record problems pictorially as well as numerically using the +, - and = symbols. We will develop their recall of number bonds to 10 and 1 more / 1 less of numbers within 20. We will explore different 2d and 3d shapes through sorting and making patterns. Please practise counting forwards and backwards with your child regularly.

**PE**

Tuesday – Outdoor Games
Thursday/Friday - Gym
Please provide your child with both an indoor and outdoor PE kit (to include a pair of trousers and a jumper) and remember that ear-rings should be taken out on PE days.

**Reading**

Your child will read at least once a week with a teacher or Teaching Assistant and complete reading related activities in Book Club. Please read with your child as often as you can and comment in the Home-Learning Log whenever you read at home.

**RE**

In RE, we will be exploring the concept of creation and considering who made the world. We will also think about how the concept of creation links with harvest and the importance of being grateful for what we have. Later in the term, we will be looking at incarnation and considering why Christmas matters to Christians. We will be thinking about the importance of the birth of Jesus to Christians and learning what happens in the nativity story that tells Christians that Jesus is God on Earth.

**‘Polar Lands’**

This will be our topic for the second half term.
In Geography we will be learning about the Polar Regions; exploring the climate, features of these environments and how to use an atlas, globe and maps to locate them.
We will continue our work on animals in Science with a particular focus on animals from Polar Regions. In Art we will be exploring clay and learning how to manipulate it to make our own polar animals.
The children will learn how to use paint programmes on the laptops to draw pictures and write captions in Computing. In English we will be learning about non-fiction books and how to use them to retrieve information. We will also be reading and exploring poems related to polar lands.

**Maths**

This half term we will be introducing the five key principles of Heartsmart.

**Library books**

Children will begin to choose books from the school library each week. Library changing day is Tuesdays, so please ensure they have it with them in order to change it on this day.