**English:** This half term the children will be reading the story Hansel and Gretel, written by The Brothers Grimm. They will be focussing on the narrative of events in the past tense, constructing simple sentences with a single idea, using full stops, capital letters and finger spaces when writing. The emphasis will be on verbally constructing good sentences in the main for year 1, and orally rehearsing sentences before writing in year 2. The children will also be learning new text related vocabulary and writing dictated sentences with increasing accuracy. We are paying particular attention to handwriting this term which will be an added focus during our phonics sessions. Children will be reading daily during English lessons, as well as individually during the week.

**Geography**: The children will be doing the Spatial Sense unit which focusses on: understanding aerial views and how maps are created, children then look at how cartographers (map makers) represent physical (natural) and human (made by people) features of an area on a drawn map. They find out how symbols are used on maps and how a key can tell us what the symbols mean. They will also look at the four points of the compass, and use some positional language to describe locations. They will draw simple maps of familiar locations (the school).

**Art: Colour:** Through the works of Mondrian, Bruegel the Elder, Van Gogh, Vermeer and Monet, the children will explore concepts and vocabulary which relate to colour: primary and secondary colours; warm and cool colours; tints and shades. This will enable the children to further investigate the art of painting. The activities in the unit are designed to allow them to practise good mixing technique and brush control, alongside learning about some influential artists.

**Music: Marching Music.**

This unit introduces the children to the musical concept of the beat/pulse (the steady heartbeat of music), through marching and moving to music. They will listen to music by Mozart and learn a little bit about the composer. They will go on to discover that the beat or pulse music can move at different speeds, by listening to different versions of the piece of music and exploring how this can affect the way we feel. By listening to a version of the piece played on the trumpet the children compare how different musical instruments make sound, contrasting the piano with the trumpet. They learn how they can make sound by using their own bodies as instruments (body percussion). They will then go on to explore the difference between pulse/beat and rhythm.

Woodpecker class, Years 1 and 2 Autumn 1 Curriculum Overview.

**RE: Who is God to Christians and Why Does God Matter to Them?**

In RE this year we begin looking at World Views through the 3 lenses of Philosophy, Theology and Human/Social Sciences. Throughout the school these concepts are introduced as 3 characters Theo, Sophie and Livvy. These characters will help guide the children through the RE units by posing specific questions and ways of looking at experiences through context and reasoning.

In our first unit in KS1 we will be discovering more about the importance of God to Christians and the different ways in which Christians all over the world practice their beliefs.

**Science: The Human Body – The 5 Senses.**

This unit reconnects to prior learning by looking at the parts of the human body that relate to our senses. They then move on to study the eye in more detail, learning that scientists look closely at things to find out how they work. They will understand that light travels into our eyes which helps us to see. Following this, they will find out more about our ears, how we hear and the importance of hearing. Touch, taste and smell are studied, and children will begin to understand that our senses help us to process what is happening around us, helping us to be aware of the world we live in. Children will consider the role of our senses in protecting us from danger, and will work scientifically exploring senses and experiencing how we use them through a variety of practical activities.

**Math:**

This term the children will be strengthening their understanding of number and place value in maths. They will be looking at number within 10 (Year 1) and within 100 (year 2). They will be using concrete resources such as cubes, counters, base 10 and Numicon, to recognize and use number bonds to 10, and to partition into tens and ones. They will have a mix of practical and written work based lessons, with many opportunities to explore number and to begin using reasoning to explain their choices in Math. They will begin, or continue, to count in 2’s, 5’s and 10’s and will look at different ways of adding and subtracting numbers within 10, 20 and 100.