



We hope you had a great half term and enjoyed the slightly warmer weather. Spring is almost here! Have you spotted any crocuses yet?



Did you know it is possible to identify trees without their leaves? We can look at the shape, size and colour of their buds and also look for catkins and cones. Deciduous trees all have buds at this time of year, waiting for the spring sunshine to give them energy to grow into leaves and blossom.

This week we would like you to go for a walk in a woodland or area with some trees. Use the winter twig ID sheet attached to identify and name the trees you find. Use your observation skills to look carefully at the buds.

Here are some bud facts to help you. Over time and with practise you can easily learn to identify trees in winter from their buds. Good luck identifying buds!



Ash tree buds are black and chunky.



Beech tree buds are brown, long, thin and pointy.



Oak tree buds are brown and in clusters.



Hazel buds are tiny and the trees have catkins which look a bit like lamb's tails.