



April 2018

### **We are Bee-ologists!**

We, 5<sup>th</sup> Class, were lucky enough to experience having a biodiversity lesson from a professional biologist on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April last. We learnt a significant amount about a bee's lifestyle and surroundings.

Firstly we were introduced to three different species of bee, the solitary bee, the bumble bee and the honey bee. There are 99 different species of bees – 1 species of honey bee – 77 species of bumble bee and 21 species of solitary bees!

They all live in different environments such as hives and also underground.

Next we discovered what beekeepers have to do to maintain their bee hives and, above all, keep their bees happy. In each hive the bees randomly select their Queen as she is born.

Bees spread pollen and collect nectar to bring back to their hive to make honey. Honey making is a slow process. Even though there are tens of thousands of bees in each hive, bees tend to get vicious when another insect enters their hive uninvited!

Overall bees are a very bright, intelligent species of insect. They come in all colours and sizes – just like us!

#### **Bee Facts:**

- Some bees make their own homes
- There used to be 101 different species of bee – now there are 99
- Bees die after they sting
- Bees are completely different to wasps
- Bees have hair – wasps don't

