Week One

Are there any old brown stems from last year still standing? Draw the stem and describe it. Is it hollow? Is it round, does it have 4 sides, or a different number? Does it still have seed heads?

**Wildlife tip; ladybirds, lacewings and some moth and butterfly caterpillars shelter in hollow stems over winter, so try not to tidy them till after the last danger of frost. (Mid April in Newcastle) Other insects over winter amongst dead leaves at the base of plants so please don't tidy these either**.

Listen to the birds. Can you listen for and tell apart three different bird calls? And then for an additional challenge, can you see the birds making the calls? You will need to sit very still and quietly to see some birds.

The first bees are out! Sit and watch a bee for 10 minutes. What is it doing, what plants does it visit?