

# Welcome back Class 1



I hope that you have had a lovely break and are ready for the busy run up to Christmas. This half term our theme is **'Paddington's Passport'** which is based around worldwide travels of Paddington Bear, with a Geography focus. We will look first at Peru, including the Amazonian rainforest (of which Peru has the second-largest portion after the Brazilian Amazon). Then, the focus is on London, reinforcing previous learning about the UK within the global context of continents and oceans. During our Science lessons, we'll be identifying and comparing the suitability of a variety of everyday materials. We'll investigate materials to see if they can squash, twist, bend, stretch, as well as testing absorbency and checking waterproof properties.

This half term we will be looking at some lovely key texts and continuing to build our understanding of sentence structure and punctuation. Our focus for this half term is writing for different purposes; diaries, letters, fact files and stories. Our two key texts this half term 'Paddington Bear' and 'Paddington's Post' will give us many opportunities to explore the many different reasons we write.

Daily Sounds Write phonics sessions, alongside active and written handwriting sessions will be a part of our weekly routine, which will help with our gross and fine motor skills, leading to improved handwriting.

The Year 2 children will be part of guided reading sessions in small stage appropriate groups. They will be listening to stories, talking about the stories and applying their reading skills. There will be a focus on reading and interpreting the text to understand the story at a deeper level. We aim to read with your children individually at least once a week. However please do remember that we read several times a day individually, as part of a small group and a whole class and this is not documented in your child's reading diary. Please spend time looking at this with your child as often as possible and ensure that

In Maths lessons, our youngest children will be linking their knowledge of patterns to numbers to 10. There will be a focus on Addition and Subtraction for our Year 1 and 2 children. Our Year 1 children will be using part whole models, bar models and number lines to add and subtract. They'll then use this knowledge to solve simple word problems. In Year 2, the children will be progressing from adding and subtracting 1 digit numbers to 2 digit numbers to 100 using their knowledge of related facts, number bonds, adding and subtracting from and across 10. They'll be understanding 10 and 100 more and less and using this knowledge to solve word and missing number problems.

Class 1 will continue to have their PE session on a **TUESDAY**. Forest school will take place on a **THURSDAY** afternoon. Forest school will take place in all weathers, with the exception of high winds. Please ensure that your child has water-proofs and boots in school. **REMINDER: Please send your child with a change of shoes on Forest School days to help to keep the floors clean.**

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR CHILD COMES TO SCHOOL IN THEIR KIT ON THE DESIGNATED DAY.

## Ways to help with learning at home this term

**Weekly spellings** will be sent home for the Year 1 and 2 children, to be tested on a **WEDNESDAY**. Please take a look at these each week and help your child to spell the words independently. Mrs Stevens posts these via Seesaw each week, please come and speak to her if you are unable to access them.

**Reading**—Please ensure that your child's reading book and diary comes to school **every day**. Please remember to write in your child's diary every time you read with them. We very much value your support in listening to your child read. Sharing books together is a fantastic way to nurture positive reading habits. Bedtime stories where you model the reading is hugely beneficial.

**Homework challenges**— Each child will receive a homework challenge menu via Seesaw. There will be enough tasks to complete at least 1 per week based on our topic. You can choose any way that you would like to record your experiences, for example, you can use pictures, photographs, writing, cartoons or you could stick souvenirs in your book. You can also choose the order in which you complete the challenges. Please don't worry if you do not get chance to complete all of the challenges, they are designed for you to pick and choose which activities you would like to do with your child and that fit around your family life. Each week we will choose a selection of work to be presented to the class to develop social and communication skills. We do hope that you can complete as many challenges as possible so that your child can share their successes with their peers and school staff.

**Many Thanks for your continued support**

**Miss Timbrell and the Class 1 team**