



Hatfield Heath Primary School

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April 2018

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had an enjoyable Easter break! After a wonderful Spring term, we now have another exciting and busy final term ahead of us. Our topic this term is 'From Polar to Peru'. We are going to be exploring the travels of Paddington Bear and helping him find his long lost relative, the polar bear. We are going to be writing instructions for how to make marmalade sandwiches, writing and researching about the UK and comparing and contrasting this with Paddington's own country, Peru, and the other countries Paddington travels to on his journey. We will also write our own story based on the book 'Paddington at the Zoo'.

The children will continue to have two daily phonics sessions where we revisit or introduce sounds and practise the High Frequency Words. Encourage your child to find High Frequency Words in their reading books or spot some of their phonic sounds (most books have guidance on the front or back cover for this). Please may we take this opportunity to remind you that it is vital your child is reading at home and that this is recorded in their diary. Reading with your child should be an enjoyable activity that enables you to spend some 1:1 time together. For your child to receive the 'Reading Champion' sticker, reading must be recorded at least 4 times each week. It is also important that whilst your child may be reading a book fluently, they also need to be able to ask and answer questions about what they have read. The comprehension bookmark that went home last term has prompts for this and most of the school reading books have questions at the start and/or end of the book. If you would like any more support with this, please come and see me.

As Paddington Bear travels around the world, we will be learning about the 4 UK countries, the 7 continents and the oceans. We will be using maps to help us locate different countries. The children will research different places to tell Paddington about and we will learn about the flags, food, languages and traditions within those countries. In DT we will be making our own structures based on the landmarks that Paddington visits around the world and creating dens for Paddington. We will also be researching sculptures that Paddington sees in London and learning about famous sculpture artists in the UK. We will then make our own sculptures using different materials.

In Maths we will be using our 2, 5 and 10 times tables to solve multiplication and division problems. We will be focusing on equal grouping and sharing and using multilink, counters and pictorial representations to do so. Practising counting in 2s, 5s or 10s and working out the missing number in a sequence will help your children. We were so impressed with the fraction work your children did last term during 'Maths and Art week' and this will support with finding fractions of amounts this term e.g. $\frac{1}{4}$ of 12 and splitting 12 into 4 equal groups or into groups of 4. Any on-going practise of number bonds to 20 e.g. $14 + 6$, $15 + 5$ will help your child become more fluent and confident in using these. It will also help with solving missing number problems such as $14 = \underline{\quad} - 6$ or $\underline{\quad} + 4 = 20$.

During our Science lessons we will be investigating what plants need to grow. We will be planting our own beans and seeds and planning our own investigations to see the different conditions plants can grow in. We will also be learning about different plants we can eat and labelling the parts of a flowering plant and recording their uses. We will be looking at seasonal changes as we move into the Summer term. As we explore nature around us, we will look at how to help the environment in RE and look at special things in nature. In PSHCE we will be exploring ways to work together in different situations and how to keep ourselves safe.

In ICT lessons the children will be learning how to save images on the internet and put them into a Word or Powerpoint document. We will be using the computers to help us research information about Paddington bear and find pictures of Paddington using the search engine 'Kiddle'.

Two of our PE units this term are 'cricket' and 'athletics'. Cricket will be taught by an external cricket coach and the children will develop skills in bowling, batting and fielding. In athletics we will be running, jumping and throwing using different apparatus. After the half term we will be swimming twice a week in the school pool. There will be more information about this to follow.

Please can I remind you that a labelled PE kit should be in school consisting of trainers or plimsoles, a t-shirt and shorts/joggers. If your child wears earrings, they either need to be able to remove them themselves or they need to be removed prior to coming to school that day. They are unable to take an active part in PE lessons if they have earrings in due to safety reasons. Please also ensure that your child has a labelled water bottle in school and a sun hat.

Spellings (High Frequency Words) will continue to go home each Monday. Home learning will carry on going home on a Friday and should come back in on the following Wednesday. The activities will be related to on-going work in class. If your child finishes their school reading books, they can have a read of some of the books on Bug Club, from the school or local library or any books at home.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to come and speak to me or arrange an appointment.

Yours sincerely,

Miss C. Harris