

Curriculum Update

Year 2

Paddington's' Passport

We have been thoroughly enjoying our mini theme about Paddington Bear! We started our theme by looking at Paddington himself and learning lots of facts about him and what he was like. In geography, we started to learn about physical and human features. We did this by first taking a look at our local surroundings in Madley to identify what physical and human features we had in our village. This then led us to learning about the human and physical features of Peru and comparing the similarities and differences between the capital cities of Lima and London. This week, we also took a brief look at the Amazon Rainforest, that runs through Peru, and identified the physical features. We are very much looking forward to continuing this theme after half term!

Science

This half term we have been focusing on everyday materials and what their properties are. We have identified materials like wood, glass, metal, wool, rubber, paper, cotton and plastic. We have used vocabulary like transparent, opaque, strong, flexible, rigid, hard, soft and absorbent to describe them.

Our weekly time table

Monday afternoon - Swimming
Tuesday morning - Forest school
Wednesday mornings - small recorder groups with Mrs Blaker and Rugby skills
Thursday morning - Music with Mrs West from Encore
Thursday afternoon - Mrs Baker
Friday afternoon - Mrs Baker

Forest school

This week in forest school, we took full advantage of the wet weather! We explored the texture of the wet mud and discussed how it felt or made us feel when used our hands to mould and manipulate it into different shapes. We then made our own mud faces and used natural materials to add facial features. We all used our imagination and creativity to create lots of different designs.

We also decided to see how much rain water we collected. We found this more challenging than we thought it would be as we were expecting our containers to fill quicker as it felt like it was raining lots. We were surprised to learn that the amount of rainfall we had that day was not much at all! This also gave us the opportunity to discuss how river levels rise due to the run offs from fields, streams and mountains. We related this to the River Wyre that runs through Hereford.

Mathematics

We have been working extremely hard in our maths lessons learning all about multiplication and division! We started this unit by recapping our understanding of making equal groups and finding how many there were altogether. We then represented these equal groups using repeated addition number sentences e.g. $2 + 2 + 2 = 6$ before learning that we can replace the addition symbols with a multiplication sentence e.g. $3 \times 2 = 6$.

We then moved onto division. We started by looking at making equal groups by sharing before looking at the alternative method of making equal groups by grouping. We have represented these groups with number sentences using the division symbol.

Times tables - Going for Gold

As we have been learning lots about multiplication and our times tables this term, Year 2 have now been given our 'Going for Gold' times tables challenge homework. Instructions on the sheet show how the bronze, silver and gold awards work and how they can be practiced at home. This will run alongside TT rockstars which we will also be really encouraging the children to use after half term. In school, the children will be given time set aside to work with a partner to prove they have achieved their awards. They receive a merit for each times table that is fully achieved. Year 2 can start with the 2, 5 and 10 times table before moving onto the 3's and 4's.