Class News

Autumn 2 2026



London's burning!

This half term in History, we will be exploring what schools were like in the past, comparing classrooms, lessons and school rules from 100 years ago with those of today. In English, we will begin with *Vlad and the Great Fire of London*, linking our learning to a significant historical event and exploring how life has changed over time. We will then use *A Bear Called Paddington* to write instructions on how to make a marmalade sandwich! Finally, in the lead up to Christmas and the end of term, we will learn to write persuasive letters to Santa on behalf of *Monty the Penguin*!

Maths

Represent repeated addition as multiplication

Recognise, find, name and write fractions ½ and ¼ of a shape, set of objects or quantity.

Partition numbers up to 100 into tens and ones.

Add/subtract a two-digit number and tens

English

- First person recount – Vlad and the Great Fire of London
- To write a set of instructions – A Bear Called Paddington
- To write a persuasive letter to Santa – Monty the Penguin
- Using question/exclamation marks effectively

Other subjects

History – What were schools like in the past?

Science – using experiments to observe changing materials

Design and Technology – puppets with a focus on textiles

RE – waiting during advent in Christianity

Our class reader/ book is: A Bear Called Paddington

Vocabulary

Beyond living memory – A time period that occurred longer ago than the lifespan of anyone currently alive.
Living memory - A time span that covers the lifetimes of people who are currently alive.
Period - A specific length, portion or duration of time.
Recount – To narrate or describe a past event, experience or story in detail.
Instructions – A detailed direction of teaching that tells someone how to do, use or understand something.
Persuasive - a special type of writing sent to someone to convince them to change their mind or to take a specific action.

How to help at home

Continue to read as often as possible at home to develop fluency, vocabulary and comprehension skills.

Talk about the past – encourage you child to ask grandparents or other family members about their experiences of school and childhood to help bring their learning to life and deepen their understanding of how life has changed over time.

Outcome

The children will invite their parents/guardians into the classroom on the 4th December, to take part in a marmalade sandwich challenge. Using the instructional texts they have written, children will guide their grown ups through making a sandwich, with a bit of a twist!

Key messages

Woodpecker PE days are – Monday and Friday. Please send your child to school in their PE kits on these days. Coach's club is on a Monday.

It is Nativity time! Please look out for notes, scripts and costume instructions in your child's bookbag as we prepare throughout the term for our big performance!