

Dear Parents and Carers

**Our topic**

Our topic this term is 'Buckets and Spades'. We will learn about the geographical features of seaside places and make comparisons between a seaside town and Headingley. We will also use simple compass directions and continue to identify on globes, maps and atlases the countries of the United Kingdom, the seven continents and five oceans in our ongoing geography work. In Science we will learn about different types of animals and their habitats.

**English**

Our topic will provide lots of opportunities for writing. We will continue to work on writing clear sentences, linking with connectives (such as and, but, so, because), using capital letters and full stops correctly and using adjectives. Our phonics work will include consolidation of the phonemes we have already learnt as we prepare for the Year 1 phonics test.

**Maths**

In Maths we will continue to work regularly on our Passport targets to secure basic facts and skills. To achieve each target, the children have to say or write their answers in 30 seconds so it's really helpful to practise each target regularly at home. Please ask if your child needs an updated copy of his or her current Passport targets.

We will also continue to work on addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Problem solving will continue to be an important part of our maths, when children are encouraged to apply their knowledge and skills and to persevere when they are stuck.

**Trips and visitors**

We are hoping to arrange a trip to Filey to enhance our learning about the geography of seaside places and the habitats of some of the animals that live there.

**Clothes or equipment**

Please make sure your child has PE kit in school. We will aim to have PE outdoors as often as possible this term so joggers would be useful until the weather warms up. As always, please make sure that everything is labelled and placed in a named bag. We prefer kit to stay at school for the full half term. It can be washed in the half term holiday!

It is very helpful if you can provide a named water bottle for your child. These are refilled every morning and can go home at the weekend for washing

**How you can help?**

Regular reading with your child is vital in Year 1. This should be a short session of about ten minutes at least three times per week to enable your child to practise their phonic skills and to recognise tricky words by sight. Please date and sign your child's reading record so that we know they have read their home reading books. These will continue to be changed on Wednesdays along with library books.

You will receive a separate homework leaflet with details about our big homework project this half term and ideas for other activities you can do together at home. Please remember that the most important homework you can do is reading together regularly, practising phonics and spellings and helping children to learn facts for their Maths Passport targets.

We are always interested in how children are getting on with their learning at home and want to work with you to keep your child safe, happy and learning well. Feel free to arrange to see us by catching us at the start or the end of the day or by asking at the office to make an appointment.

Thank you

Mrs Bennett and Mrs Hopkins

<b>Staff working in class this half term</b>	<b>PE Days</b>	<b>Reading book day</b>	<b>Spelling day</b>	<b>Library book day</b>
Sue Bennett Susie Hopkins Sue Strange Robert Straw	Tuesdays and Wednesdays	Wednesday	Phonics – every day	Wednesday