



Teacher: Miss Waghorn

Date: 17.01.25

*Hello everyone.*

*Welcome back and a Happy New Year! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and enjoyed the rest over the two-week break. I am excited to see all the happy faces back at school and we've enjoyed a great start to the new term.*

*Just a quick note to say thank you all for my wonderful Christmas gifts - the children know me very well with my love of elephants and all the presents I received were me all over and I am so grateful - thank you. I am looking forward to a great Spring term together!*

*Here's what we have been up to in our first few weeks back:*

- In English we have started our new fiction focus on the genre of a Warning Story. We have been focusing on the skill of speech and revisiting speech rules from Year 2 as well as enhancing our writing through adding stage directions to our speech to show how the character is feeling.*
- In Maths, we have focused on our second part of our multiplication and division topic. We have been learning this week how to multiply 2-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers and dividing.*
- In Geography we are learning about Rivers in our 'Misty Mountain, Winding Rivers topic'. We have explored our local River Trent - where the River starts and the major towns or cities it runs through. We have also learnt about the journey of a River from the source to mouth. We have combined this with our Art topic and created River landscapes with annotations of the key features such as waterfalls and meanders.*
- In Computing, we have used 2Logo to draw shapes and practised our typing skills - feel free to login at home and have a go!*
- In our Science topic, we've been getting messy and hands-on with our exploration of 'Solids, Liquids and Gases' (see newsletter for pictures) as well as a chocolate button melting investigation - yum!*
- Our RE question for this term is 'How do Hindu families practise their faith?' and we have learnt about Hindus in the community and the offerings of the Puja tray.*
- In Art, as well as our River landscapes, we have been using a viewfinder outside in nature to choose a viewpoint and sketch it using the photos we have taken.*

### Homework - 'The Magical Map' Creative Writing Competition.

Our 'Magical Map' entries have arrived at Young Writers HQ! We are hoping to hear back in the next few weeks.

### Homework - States of Matter

This is a practical Science homework and therefore there is no need to bring anything in, however if you would like to send in any pictures of children exploring one of the following activities at home, it'd be great to see!

**1. Ice Cube Experiment:** To understand how solids turn into liquids.

**What you need:**

- 1 ice cube
- A plate or tray
- A timer (optional)

**Instructions:**

- Place the ice cube on a plate at room temperature.
- Watch what happens as the ice melts.

What happens to the ice cube when it gets warmer? What state of matter is the ice cube in before and after it melts?

**2. Blow Up a Balloon (Gas Experiment)** To explore how gases fill space.

**What you need:**

- A balloon
- Your breath!

**Instructions:**

- Inflate the balloon by blowing air into it.
- Feel the balloon and observe what happens.

What state of matter is the air inside the balloon? Does the balloon change shape? Why do you think that happens?

**3. Water Boiling (Liquid to Gas Experiment)** To observe how heat changes a liquid into a gas.

**What you need:**

- A kettle or saucepan with water (with adult supervision)
- Heat source (stove or microwave)

**Instructions:**

- Heat the water in the kettle or saucepan.
- Watch carefully as the water starts to boil. What do you see?

Can you see steam? What state of matter is steam? Why do you think the water turns into steam when it gets hot?

**4. Make a Freeze and Thaw:** To understand how temperature can change the state of matter.

**What you need:**

- Ice cube tray
- Water
- Freezer

**Instructions:**

- Fill an ice cube tray with water and put it in the freezer.
- After a few hours, take the tray out and observe the ice.
- Let it sit at room temperature and watch what happens as the ice melts.

What are the different states of matter (solid, liquid) of the water at different times?

**5. Find Examples Around Your Home:** To identify real-life examples of solids, liquids, and gases.

**Instructions:**

Look around your home and find **one example of a solid, one example of a liquid, and one example of a gas.**

- Why do you think these objects belong in their state of matter?

Reading:

It is great to see reading done at home. Remember to sign the reads either in the reading section at the front of your child's diary or within the week, the aim is for children to have at least 3 reads per week.

Spelling:

Now we are in the Spring term, spellings will be given **once every two weeks**, meaning children will have two weeks to learn the spellings. For example, this week (17th) spellings will be given but tested on Friday 31<sup>st</sup>. After this, new spellings will be given and the next spelling test will be on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February. In class, we will be focusing on revisiting these spellings, alongside No nonsense spellings we teach in school, to ensure that children are constantly revisiting and remembering.

Key dates for your diaries are available on the Headteacher Newsletter and the weekly newsletter at a glance: Weekly Newsletters 2023/2024 | St. Peter's C of E Academy (eastbridgfordstpeters.co.uk)

<https://www.eastbridgfordstpeters.co.uk/stream/newsletters/full/1/-//>

Thank you. I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Miss Waghorn.