



## **Welcome to Year 2!**

Year 2 is such an exciting year, with children continuing to build their independence, confidence and love of learning. We have a fantastic year planned, full of engaging experiences and opportunities for children to challenge themselves, and we look forward to working closely with families to help every child have a happy and successful year. Building a strong partnership between home and school is important to us, so please remember, if you ever have any questions or concerns, please come and speak to us or call the school office. Together, we can make this a happy, successful, and memorable year for your child.

### **Year 2 Staff**

#### **Mrs Sheridan (Class Teacher)**

This is my sixth year at BVPS, and I am delighted to be joining Year 2 after teaching in both EYFS and Year 3. With a background in the creative and digital sector, and as the lead for Computing and Spanish across the school, I enjoy bringing creativity and enthusiasm into the classroom, making learning as engaging and memorable as possible. I am passionate about helping children grow in confidence, develop a love of learning, and achieve their full potential. I thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the children during our transition sessions and am excited about the year ahead.

#### **Mrs O'Toole (Class Teaching Assistant)**

I have been part of BVPS for many years and thoroughly enjoy getting to know each child and celebrating what makes them unique. I have a passion for the outdoors and love being creative and crafty. I also work in Kids Club throughout the week, which gives me the opportunity to build strong relationships with many of the children across the school. I am looking forward to getting to know our Year 2 class even better and supporting them throughout the year ahead.

### **Important Dates**

Nativity performance – December 2026 (dates to be confirmed)

Year 2 Optional SATs May 2027 (dates to be confirmed)

Year 2 Phonics Screening June 2027

(For children who did not pass the Y1 Phonics Screening Check)

## **Important Information for Year 2**

### **PE Days**

PE days will be **Monday and Thursday**. Pupils should bring their full PE kit and trainers (please see school website for details) at the start of term and can leave it in their locker until the end of the half-term. The children will need black trainers for PE because the children take part in daily physical activity sessions.

If at any point PE kits need to go home for cleaning/after-school PE club etc., please ensure that they return to school ASAP.

### **Homework**

Homework is a valuable way of enhancing your child's learning outside of the classroom as well as helping them to develop their independence and organisational skills.

### **English & Maths Homework**

Supporting your child with homework is one of the most effective ways to help them succeed in Year 2. When you take time to look over their activities, ask questions, and encourage them to do their best, it shows that learning is important—not just at school, but at home too. Homework folders will come home with Maths and Grammar activities that directly connect with what your child is learning in class. By ensuring that the folder is returned to school on Thursdays, you help reinforce routines and make it easier for your child to stay organised. Weekly spelling lists and times tables (2s, 5s and 10s) practice will further boost your child's confidence and skills. Your involvement makes a real difference, helping to build their independence, strengthen their knowledge, and foster a lifelong love of learning.

### **Spellings/Phonics**

Spelling tests will take place each Friday in Year 2. At the start of each term you will receive an overview that tells you which spelling rule and words are to be learned for that week. The spellings for the tests always link to the teaching and learning in class for that week. There are also Common Exception Words included in each weekly list. These words do not always follow the rules and can be trickier to learn. There is a list of 50 words that must be learned in Year 2 and we have divided them up across the year.

### **Reading**

When your child reads every day, they learn new words, understand stories better, and become more confident learners. Reading often helps children do well in school and enjoy learning. Most importantly, it's a simple way to spend special time together and share in their growth. Making reading a daily habit helps your child succeed and discovers the joy of books for life.

Each child will have 2 or 3 books to read every week. We will only be **changing books on a Friday**. If your child finishes their books, please use the time to re-read with your child. This develops fluency in reading and this skill enables children to develop strong comprehension skills. They will have a levelled reading book and will also bring home Monster Phonics books that links to their focus spelling rules. **It is vital that these books are returned to school each week so that other children can take them home.** The children will also have the opportunity to choose a library book which they can keep for longer than a week.

We strongly encourage you to record every reading session in your child's reading record book—each entry makes a real difference. By tracking their reading at home, you're not only showing your support but also helping us celebrate their progress together. We'll also keep a record of all the reading your child completes in school, ensuring a complete picture of their development.

## **Online Safety**

While the internet offers great learning opportunities for learning, being creative and socialising, it also comes with risks which us as parents need to be increasingly aware of. I have put together a list of suggested top tips for any devices but as a school we will be offering more support with this throughout the year.

### **Top Tips for Keeping Your Child Safe**

- Device use in the same room as an adult
  - Set Parental Controls
  - Set screen time limitations.
  - Check your child's device
- Talk Regularly, offer advice and support regarding situations/conversations
  - Balance Screen Time
- Check Age Ratings of apps/games and make informed decisions about this
  - Be Alert to In-Game Spending
  - Encourage Kindness Online

Having taught the children during the transition sessions in the summer term, we know that they are ready for the next step in their education. We are excited to get to know them further over the next year and for us to work as a team in supporting your children.

Kind regards,

Mrs Sheridan & Mrs O'Toole