



Dear Parents

Welcome to Year 2! The children have made a great start and settled in well to Year 2 and, although we know that some of them have commented on the lack of 'toys' in their new classroom, they have made a very positive transition from Year 1. During this year we will try to make the curriculum as active as possible, but this is a real year of change for them as we strive to prepare them for both their KS1 SATS next May and then their move to Juniors.

Staff

In Year 2, the children will be taught by Mrs Hankinson and Mrs Turner each morning, with additional support from Mrs Keenan.

On Monday and Wednesday afternoons Mrs Hankinson will be taking the class. Mrs Purnell will teach the class in a Tuesday, Thursday and Friday afternoon. The children will be supported by Mr Nash in the afternoons.

PE

The children will have PE lessons on a Monday and Thursday afternoon and so if PE kits go home to wash over the weekend, please make sure it is back in school on Monday mornings. Also, please make sure all the PE kit is labelled with your child's name, thank you.

To ensure safety in our PE lessons, please ensure that children do not wear earrings, watches or necklaces on those days. If they do have jewellery on that day, we will require them to remove it for the duration of the lesson. Earrings may be covered with plasters or tape.

Water Bottles

Please send your child with a named water bottle each day - the children are often keen to drink during the day, especially after playtime, lunchtime and PE lessons. Bottles should only be filled with water only and not juice.

Homework

We really appreciate you helping your child with his/her homework. Homework will come home on a Thursday night, and we would like it to come back into school by the following Tuesday or sooner. The homework consists of a mental arithmetic book and children should only complete the sections identified.

Reading

We want the children to build a love of reading and hope that your sessions together at home will be pleasurable for both you and your child. Please try to read with your child for around 10 minutes every day, if possible, even if this means reading the same book on more than one day. Reading a book more than once is extremely helpful at this stage in their development as repetition is useful for reinforcing word recognition. Following the second reading of a book, it is useful to spend time talking about the text and its characters as this undoubtedly helps develop an understanding of the structure of stories. If your child struggles with any of the words, please encourage them to use their phonic skills to sound out the word and to look at the pictures for any clues. Your child's book will be changed on the days written in the front of the Reading Record provided the book has been read at home. For this reason, we would ask that you please sign the Reading Record every time you hear your child read.

Library

Each child will also bring home a library book for you to read and enjoy with them. Library books will be issued every Wednesday so we do ask that all books are returned by the following Wednesday so that your child can choose a new one each week.

Phonics

On Wednesdays, the children will be set spellings home to learn. This will consist of 10-12 words set on Dojo and children will be tested on them the following Monday. The list of words will be made up of two parts. The first few will be words associated with the spelling rule we are learning about, or it may be that we ask children to learn the rules so that they can apply to any given word. The second part of the list will be made up of common exception words which are ones that are included on the statutory lists of words children must learn.

Finally, thank you for your continued support and please feel free to email either of us or catch us at the end of the day if you have any questions.

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