

# WELCOME TO CLASS 2

## Class 2 Teaching Team

Mrs Mounsey & Miss Coward  
Miss Potter & Miss McWhirter

### Welcome !

Welcome back to school! Your children have settled well on their first days back and we have had an extensive handover from their previous teachers – we are all looking forward to a busy and exciting year ahead of us. We would also like to welcome Miss Coward to our Class 2 Teaching Team – Class 2 are in for a treat as she is such an enthusiastic teacher!

Apologies for the overload of information to follow ...

We will begin our year with lots of continuous provision where children will be learning through their play. This will allow children to settle in and adjust to the new routines of Class 2. Over the next term, the Year 1 children will gradually adopt a more formal style of learning in some lessons with more recording of their work in books. Year 2 is an important year in the academic life and we naturally expect more from them than in Year 1, but rest assured we care about the whole development and wellbeing of your child. Do speak to any member of staff about any concerns.

Details of topics covered and links to the curriculum will soon be on our website.

### PE



PE lessons this term will be on Tuesdays and Friday. Please make sure that your child's named PE kit is left in school during the term. This kit should include:

P.E. Bag (named on the outside!) Blue t-shirt (named!) Black/navy shorts (named!). Children will also need trainers/pumps for outdoor PE, but as many children come to school in sports shoes, there is no need to have two pairs. In Class 2, we are working towards children dressing and undressing themselves quickly and independently for PE lessons. If necessary, please do practise at home!



### "Fill a bucket"

You may have already heard about how the children are filling up their buckets in Class 2! Miss Coward has introduced a lovely story called "Have you filled your bucket today?" by Carol McCloud. The story tells of how kindness and sharing can fill yours (and your friend's) imaginary buckets up. If you are unkind, then you are dipping into your bucket and emptying it out. A full bucket makes everyone feel happy and secure. We are filling our buckets with sparkly fluffy pompoms, and it has been a huge hit so far!

### Stars Assembly

The next Stars Assembly is on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020 at 9.15am to celebrate our achievements and successes from the first few weeks of school! Watch this

### Dates for your diary:

12<sup>th</sup> Oct: PCSO Ousby talking to children about Bonfire Safety  
20<sup>th</sup> October: Flu Immunisations (more details to follow)  
23<sup>rd</sup> October: Pink Day  
26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> Oct: Half Term  
9<sup>th</sup> November: Remembrance Worship  
13<sup>th</sup> Nov: Children In Need Day

space to see how parents can be involved!

11<sup>th</sup> Dec: Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day  
18<sup>th</sup> Dec: End of term



**Homework** is an important element of the partnership between teachers and parents in Class 2 as it supports the weekly learning.

Each week, children will have **reading** to complete (3 or more times during the week is ideal), along with **phonics/spelling** work. We also will request that children practise their **times tables** each week.

Children independently select their reading books every MONDAY from a selection which is appropriate to their level. We aim to offer library books every week for parents to read to their child for enjoyment. We are going to call this book a “Bedtime Book” to be shared in the evening. We hope that this will give the children a positive role model and a confident attitude to reading. This attitude really is the foundation for becoming a lifelong learners and has a direct impact on their future educational success. All children will be listened to every week at school, but it is essential children read at home every day and are also read to. We have individual Reading Records which will be in their reading packs which form an important part of the home-school partnership.

We have decided to change the way we send reading books home this year. Reading packs will be sent home on **Monday** and kept at home for the full week and returned to school on **Friday**. The books will be isolated over the weekend, then new books sent out the following Monday. (This is different to how we have sent reading books home in the past). This also means that children will not have school reading books over the weekend, so we would encourage shared enjoyment of other books you have at home. We will send home 3 to 4 books each Monday – please tell us if you require more!

When reading, you can support your child by:

- i) helping them to decode tricky words in their reading book,
- ii) asking them questions about the text to check their understanding,
- iii) commenting on these two points in the Reading Records and,
- iv) exposing them to higher level texts which they cannot yet access independently, by reading to them regularly.

As the term progresses, we will conduct weekly checks of spellings, in the form of dictation. Research shows that using and applying newly learnt words in sentences is more effective than rote learning a list of words for recall in a test. For children who are approaching the end of their phonics learning, we will send home a green spelling log with a new list of words to learn at home and the previous week’s dictation so you can see the accuracy with which your child is spelling.

**PHONICS BOOKS** – In your child’s reading pack, they will have a small A6 size notebook. These phonics (sounds) will be taught at school using the Jolly phonics songs, actions and pictures. It would be really helpful if you could practise these with your child each day. New sounds will be added if needed on a Monday. Please keep this phonic notebook in their reading pack.

**Please get in touch with us if we can help you in any way! You can email me on: [andrea@orton.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:andrea@orton.cumbria.sch.uk) (this email is checked every day) or alternatively, you can send us a message through the office/telephone: [admin@orton.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:admin@orton.cumbria.sch.uk) 015396 24268**

*The Class 2 Team*