

# WELCOME TO CLASS 2

## Class 2 Teaching Team

Mrs Mounsey & Miss Coward  
Miss Potter & Mrs Cairns

### Welcome !

Welcome back to school! Your children have settled well on their first days back and we have had an extensive handover from Mrs Woodmass for our new Year 1 children – we are all looking forward to a busy and exciting year ahead of us.

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 and also to the new mix of children. 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 school and we naturally expect more from them than in Year 1. We aim to provide lots of challenge for all of our children whilst allowing our social skills to develop in a safe environment where it doesn't matter if we get things wrong.

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

### PE



*PE lessons this term will be on Wednesdays 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 is helpful) Blue t-shirt, black/navy shorts (all named please!). 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!*

### Continuous Provision

Continuous Provision describes all of the different provision areas which are available to the children to use every day. The idea of continuous provision is that it encourages children to be active learners, interacting with materials they can access day to day.

As well as continuous provision in Class 2, we plan for direct input with group of children to cover all the areas of the curriculum. Maths and English are normally delivered in a morning through focused group work and the other subjects in the afternoon.

You may get the impression from the children that they are only "playing" at school, but we weave in targeted learning into this provision so that children don't even realise they are learning!

### Dates for your diary:

The school newsletter has an updated list of important dates.

- 21<sup>st</sup> October: Pink Day
- 24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> Oct: Half Term
- 11<sup>th</sup> November: Remembrance Worship
- 18<sup>th</sup> Nov: Children in Need Day
- 9<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, along with a **phonics book** and **spellings** (these will come home on a Friday and checked the following week).

Children independently select their reading books every week from a selection which is appropriate to their level. (Research indicates that to raise fluency, children should be comfortably reading the text without much sounding out, so

please don't worry if the books appear 'too easy', we want to encourage a love of reading and for it not to be difficult. We aim to offer library books every week for parents to read to their child for enjoyment. 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 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 would like the children to bring their blue book bags (containing their reading packs) into school everyday to be placed in the book boxes. This year, we will not have set reading days, but aim to listen to children several times a week, so having their bookbags in school every day will ensure they don't miss their turn.

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. We will send home a green spelling log with a new list of words to learn at home and the previous week's words so you can see the accuracy with which your child is spelling. Spellings will be focused on the phonics we have been learning in class and also high frequency words

**PHONICS BOOKS** – In your child's reading pack, they will have a small A7 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 (the sounds with the spots in the corner of the page are the sounds that need practising most). New sounds will be added weekly. We have said that if the children can tick off their "spotted sounds" then they can have a treat out of our treat jar!

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