

Class 2 Newsletter - Autumn 1



Dear Parents,

Welcome to (or back to) Class 2! I hope you all had a wonderful summer. I am pleased to inform you that everyone is settling back into school just fine and already working hard and learning lots of new things.

I would like to explain some of the routines for Class 2 this year:

I cannot express how important **reading** is - it affects everything we do. The more your child practises the better they become - as the terms go on it becomes apparent those who practise reading at home on a regular basis. Your child will be given a home reading book which will be changed on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday, each Year 2 child will read to me on a Friday morning during guided reading sessions and Year 1 with Miss Forth as well as other members of staff throughout the week. Please use your child's reading diary to comment on your child's progression and any other comments you feel necessary. It would be appreciated if you sign and date the diary to show you have listened to your child read so they can then move on to the next book.

To celebrate and encourage a lifelong love of reading at home and school, every Monday, your child will have the opportunity to take a book home from the school library to share with you at home. Can you please ensure your child returns their book the following Monday, so they can swap it for a new one.

Inside your child's reading diary is a list of spellings taken from the National Curriculum which indicates which week of term they will be tested, they will also receive a weekly list in their diary as a reminder. Please could you support your child in learning their spellings as it aids in reading and helps cement the connection that is shared between sounds and letters. Learning high frequency sight words also has been shown to help with both reading and writing. Spellings will be tested every Thursday and results sent home.

Basic number facts are so important in establishing a foundation for reasoning and problem solving within mathematics. Therefore maths homework this year will be set half-termly as ongoing revision in order to support your child in learning fundamental number facts, e.g. number bonds to 10, 20, 100 and times tables. It is hoped that this will have a positive impact on the children's progression and their ability to recall these facts.

PE kits will stay at school and will be sent home at the end of every week. Some PE lessons take place in the hall but others are outside. Therefore your child should not only have shorts and t-shirt but also jogging bottoms, tracksuit top (navy blue with a white t-shirt) and suitable footwear.

It would also be helpful for girls to have a pair of socks to leave in their PE bag (for times when they wear tights to school) and also a hair bobble to tie hair back. The simplest solution for children with pierced ears is to **not** wear earrings to school on the days we do PE - which are Monday and Wednesday this half term.

Our topic for this term is 'All About Me' and our role play area is a Post Office. This provides a space for the children to develop their knowledge with lots of different writing opportunities, using number as well as money, dates and times as well as developing their speech and language. We are also fortunate enough to have a speaker from the Royal Mail arranged to visit our class in order to explain how the postal service operates.

In English we will read 'The Way Back Home' by Oliver Jeffers and 'Flat Stanley' by Jeff Brown and use the texts to compare the adventures that the two main characters have throughout the stories and how they find their way back home. Children will be given the opportunity to sequence events in a story, write a recount and a postcard and read non-fiction texts. Year One will continue to focus upon phonics, spelling and begin to develop their sentence structure. Year Two will develop their sentence structure and explore powerful vocabulary and begin to think about different punctuation. There will be a strong emphasis upon handwriting and spelling this half term.

In maths we will be working on number and place value, measurement and geometry (shapes). All of the activities will be practical and engaging whilst challenging your children. Once a week I aim to take maths outdoors as a way of experiencing the world beyond the classroom and providing practical opportunities for the application of problem solving strategies as well as developing a greater curiosity and exploration of number. Therefore, please could you make sure your child comes to school with appropriate footwear and a waterproof coat that they can use when working in the school grounds in different weather (these items could be left on your child's peg for future use).

In geography we will be studying the local area and locating Byers Green on a map of the UK. We will be looking at different homes and addresses and your child will have the opportunity to post a letter to their home address.

Our design and technology project will be to design and construct a new house for 'The Fairies' as we found some fairy items in the school grounds and the children were eager to build them a new home within the school field to keep them safe.

Your children will also continue to learn Spanish this year.



Thanks for reading. I appreciate your support and look forward to meeting you.

Mrs Bradwell / Class 2

