

Welcome to Year 2!

Dear Parents,

We are delighted to be teaching your children this year. We wanted to write down some of the important information to help you prepare for the changes this year.

Communication

This year, we would like every parent/carer to use the Class Dojo app, as any class information, or letters will be put onto the Year Two Class Dojo page and will also be put onto School Ping. Parents and carers are unable to come onto the school site in the morning, so you will need to drop your child at the gate from 8:35am to 8:45am. Any communication will need to be through speaking to the adult on the gate, using the messages part of the Class Dojo app, phone or email. You can also speak to us after school if needed. Please could you make sure you notify us if anyone else will be picking your child up for you.

P.E Bags and Jumpers

We would ask that your child comes dressed in their PE kit every Wednesday, as our P.E is on a Wednesday afternoon. They will be able to wear their PE kit all day. The PE kit is a plain white T-shirt, plain black shorts, or plain black jogging bottoms which they will need in cold weather, and black daps. Please can **all jumpers and cardigans be labelled** as we will have 30 similar ones to try and sort at the end of each day!

Water bottles and drinks

Please make sure your child has a water bottle in school, because our drinking fountains are all switched off. We are a healthy school and so only water is allowed, not squash. The children will have plenty of opportunities to have a drink during the day and they have been told the routines this week. Please could we ask that water bottles are not put in book bags to avoid reading books being damaged when water bottles leak!

Homework

Reading

Every parent, or carer has a really important role to play in helping their child to read. Research shows that this makes a huge impact on your child's progress. Being a good reader will help your child to access many areas of the curriculum, and to be good at writing, you need to be a good reader.

At this stage of your child's development it is really important that they read on a **regular basis at home**, so that they build on the learning that happens in the classroom. Our school policy is that children read at least **4 times a week at home**, and have their reading record book **signed by an adult** at least 4 times. The signatures are counted each week to give a class percentage of readers, and children's names are entered into a competition to win a new book. Reading books will only be changed on a Thursday, and your child will bring home two books to read each week. If children finish reading their school books, they are welcome to read books of their own.

Phonics/Spellings

As the children did not take part in their Phonic Screening Check in Year 1 due to the earlier lockdowns, your child will take part in the Phonic Screening Check in Term 2 of Year 2. We will assess any gaps in your child's phonic knowledge over the next few weeks, and will then begin to send home weekly phonic activities, or spellings for them to complete to support them. Please try to make these part of your weekly routine to practise alongside your child's reading book.

Homework continued

Times tables



In Year 1, the children would have begun counting in twos, fives and tens. By the end of Year Two, the children will be expected to know their two, five and ten times tables and associated division facts, and be able to count in threes. Please continue to practise counting in twos, fives and tens with your child in different situations, e.g. counting pairs of socks, gloves, or shoes.

Toilet routines

The children will be allowed to go to the toilet when they need to during term 1. After that we begin to help them learn to wait until playtimes if they can. That means they may be asked to wait if it is just before a playtime. We are fair and if they are really desperate they will always be allowed to go!

Health Issues and Inhalers

If your child has any health issues, please make sure we are aware of them so we can adapt any of our classroom routines accordingly. If we know, we can ensure your child feels at home in Year 2 and this helps avoid any anxiety. For any children with asthma, please make sure that your child has an up to date Inhaler in school at all times.

Reward System

Just as in Year 1, your child will receive Class Dojo rewards for great effort, work, or behaviour. We will be giving out a Personal Best award for a child each week during Achievement service. If your child has achieved something outside of school, e.g a swimming or sport certificate, please send photos of these outside achievements in to school for us to celebrate in Achievement service.

Finally...

We hope that your child has a great time in Year 2, and are looking forward to working with them on their learning journey this year.

Best Wishes.

Mrs Foxen, Mrs Coomber, Mrs Edmonds, Mrs Sellings