

Welcome to Class 2

Hopefully, this information will answer a few questions that you may have about Class 2 but please do not hesitate to ask or raise any questions or concerns that you may have. Mrs Clarke is the main class teacher on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and your first point of contact for any concerns. Mr Hollis teaches on Thursday mornings and all day on Friday. Mrs Coates takes the children on Thursday afternoons. Miss Manns is the class teaching assistant.

Arrival

There is much to be gained for arriving at school as possible after 8.45am. This time is helpful for staff to work with individual children on a rota basis. There are always activities for the children to continue their learning.

Lockers and Pencil Cases

As some of you will know, lockers are provided for each child to store bags, coats and PE bags (please, keep them a manageable size). In the classroom, children will have trays to keep items such as reading books and morning activity sheets. If children wish to bring a pencil case, they should be small enough to fit in their tray and not be a cause of distraction.

Physical Education

Class 2 are timetabled to have PE on a **Monday** and a **Thursday**. However, it would be helpful if PE kits could be kept in school every day in case of any impromptu changes. As PE is their final lesson on a Monday, they will leave school in their PE kit but should return their PE kit the following day, if possible. PE kits should consist of: black shorts with black, blue, dark grey tracksuit bottoms/skort/leggings, blue t-shirt, a change of socks (black, white or grey), trainers and a jumper. Please be prepared for PE outside (even in the winter!)

Reading

All children will be provided with a **Reading Record** which is expected to be in school **every day** and will go home at the end of each day. These are important tools for monitoring reading both in and out of school. **Children should be reading with an adult at least 5 times a week for 20 minutes.** This includes the **child reading their allocated reading book to an adult** but also an **adult reading to their child**. Both forms are just as important as the other. Children reading longer, chapter books should be finishing their book before starting another to obtain fluency, develop reading stamina and understanding. Discussion about what is being read is also important. A VIPERS question stem outline with examples of the types of questions you could ask your child when sharing books can be found at the front of **Reading Records**. The Awesome Eight lists provided on the school website offer a selection of recommended reads for each year group. There is no restriction to only look at the year group that your child is in; it may be appropriate to look at the year group below or above.

Maths

We are very fortunate to have school subscriptions to **MyMaths** which provide useful tools for practising and developing mathematical skills and understanding. Children will have their login information for online resources stuck in their **Reading Records**. Both sites can be used independently but we can also assign specific tasks to pinpoint consolidation of a particular skill or times table. Consistent practise of number facts (times tables, number bonds, mental addition and subtraction etc) is important for gaining fluency.

Spellings

We will be practising phonics (Y2) and spellings (Y3) four days a week, Monday to Thursday. For phonics, words lists covering the patterns will be shared with parents for a 2-week period. For Y3 children a list of spellings (15) will be allocated every other week. These spellings will be looked at in class but will also be sent home to learn for their **bi-weekly spelling test which will usually take place on Thursdays**. All phonics/spellings will also be uploaded to Seesaw in case they are misplaced or forgotten. Within the Y3 spelling lists, there will be a range of spelling rules and patterns which will be revisited throughout the year.

In this pack, there is a copy of the **High Frequency Words (HFW)** for Y2 and **Common Exception Words (CEW)** for year 2 and 3. HFWs are ones that are used often by children in their writing and therefore ones that they need to know. CEWs are ones that don't follow normal spelling rules. We will be working through these in school but any additional practise at home will be very beneficial. We will provide you with a list showing which ones your child already knows at the beginning of the year.

Seesaw

Seesaw is a very useful platform for home-school communication. Login information is provided in this pack and this will allow you to access your child's work that has been uploaded and also upload relevant work from home. You are also able to comment on your child's work from home.

Homework Webs

Each term, a homework web is provided where children can select activities to complete with people at home. These are designed to consolidate learning but also to encourage children to share their learning with those at home. We have found that helping children talk through learning is beneficial. Each piece of homework produced can earn the child up to 10 team points and every piece will be celebrated in class. Apart from spellings, reading and maths practise, there will not be any other formal homework set unless it is deemed absolutely necessary for a particular child/subject and we believe it will be beneficial for the child/children. Any homework will be in the plastic folder provided to children along with their reading book and record.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with any further questions and queries and thank you for your continued support.

Mrs. Clarke and Mr Hollis