

Year 2 Autumn Term Newsletter

September 2021

Welcome back! We hope you had a wonderful summer break and are ready for an exciting first term in Year 2.

Arriving and Leaving School

To ensure that the children are becoming increasingly independent we ask that parents leave their children at their entrance. It is essential to be punctual in the mornings and afternoons. Here are the current timings for each class.

2SS – 8:50am – 3:00pm – Door by mobiles / Nursery entrance
2JR – 8: 50am – 3:00pm – KS2 door
2ES – 8.50am – 3.00pm - KS2 door

Year Two Staff

The teachers in Year 2 are Miss Smalley (2SS), Miss Russell and Mrs Jones (2JR) and Mrs Stevens and Mrs Everard (2ES).

The teaching assistants in Year 2 are Mrs Goodwin (2ES), Mrs Dawson (2JR) and Mrs Davis-Phillips (2SS).

Our Explore, Dream, Discover Curriculum

Over the first half term our curriculum work will focus on "Africa". We will be looking at the following texts: Giraffe's can't Dance and The How to Hide a Lion series.

During this curriculum work we will be learning in Geography about the continent of Africa, surrounding continents and oceans of the world. We will also be learning in Science about African animals and comparing Africa to our country and surroundings. We will be going on our trip to Peak Wildlife –

2SS – Tuesday 11th October

2ES – Wednesday 12th October

2JR – Thursday 13th October

More information to follow on class dojo.

P.E.

Our main PE day in Year 2 will be **Friday**. Please can the children come to school in full school PE kit on a Friday, ensuring that they have layers as we will be doing PE outside where possible. The children can wear trainers and will not need black indoor pumps. The children can stay in their PE kits all day.

Fitzy Fox

Fitzy Fox is our P.E mascot and he will continue to come home with a different child each weekend. This is a way of encouraging your child to be healthy and active. In his bag he has some resources to make up some games and have some active fun with him. We would love to see pictures of Fitzy and your child doing active things and having fun. Please email any pictures and text for us to print and display at school.

Homework

This year our homework will be focusing on basics! Children are expected to read at least five times a week. They will have weekly spellings to learn and also a maths activity which will help them with their maths lessons eg number bonds or times tables.

The children will bring home a weekly arithmetic test which they complete at school. We mark them and send them home for you to look at any errors together if you get chance. These do not need to be returned.

Golden Time

During a Friday afternoon the children will have their GOLDEN TIME! This is when the children are rewarded for their good behaviour. Children can bring a toy or game into school to play with their friends – no electronic or expensive toys please.

Snacks

At playtime the children are allowed to bring in a healthy snack to enjoy. Ideas are items such as: fruit, raisins, breadsticks, carrot sticks etc. Please do not send chocolate, sweets, crisps or nuts. Children will also need a labelled water bottle to have in the classroom.

Reading

Reading continues to be a crucial part of your child's education and we would really like to see lots of children achieving the reading challenge this term. Your child only has to read 5 out of the 7 days, and it does not have to be the whole book. Sometimes a few pages and a couple of well-chosen questions about what they have read will suffice. It is equally important to check that your children understand what they are reading by asking questions. This extra practise makes such a huge difference so please support us, and remember to achieve the reading challenge you must sign the sheet!

Remember your children can read other books as well as their reading books, and if these are recorded in their reading sheets they will also count towards the reading challenge. We want to encourage a *love of reading!*

Children will receive 1 book on a Monday and then these can be changed throughout the week when required. It is the children's responsibility for them to place their books in the changing box in the classrooms. We would expect children to change books no more than three times a week. Please remember children still need to be answering questions about books, enjoying the story and understanding what they are reading.

Phonics and SAT's

We will still be having daily phonics sessions for children that need it and will communicate with you key sounds for your individual children to practice at home. Children who did not pass the Year 1 phonics screen this year will be retested in Summer 1.

During the first half of the Summer Term the children will sit their end of KS1 assessments (SATs), we will send a date for this soon, and more information will follow this newsletter.