



Year 2 Autumn Term Newsletter

September 2023

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. We know sometimes unforeseeable things can happen, making you late and we completely understand this but persistent lateness may result in a letter sent home.

Here are the current timings for year 2 – the doors will be open at 8:35 and close at 8:44. Any children who arrive after the doors are closed will need to go through the office entrance. The doors will then reopen at 3:12pm for children to be collected.

Reminder

Please can we remind you that children should not be wearing earrings in school. Thank you for your support with this.

Year Two Staff

The teachers in Year 2 are Miss Smalley (2SS - Oak), Mrs Eaton and Mrs Jones (2JE - Hazel) and Mrs Stevens and Mrs Everard (2ES - Yew)

Our wider curriculum

Over the first half term our curriculum work will focus on spotting physical and human features in our local area, learning about the history of the Titanic and learning about animals and their habitats.

When studying animals, the children will be going on a very exciting trip to Peak Wildlife Park, where they will have the opportunity to learn about how animals adapt to their habitats and what they need to survive. The dates of the trips are below.

2ES (Yew class) – Monday 9th October

2JE (Hazel class) – Tuesday 10th October

2SS (Oak class) – Thursday 12th October

We request a contribution for the trip which can be paid via the ParentPay app. Thank you for your support with this and helping to give our children fabulous experiences. More information will follow.

P.E.

As you know, we do PE twice each week. Our main PE day is Monday and on a Friday we do a fitness session (tabata)

Children need to come into to school on these days dressed in their full school PE kit.

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 'the basics!'

Children are expected to read at least **five** times a week. If you're finding this tricky to keep up with, or having trouble getting your child to engage with reading, please do speak to your child's class teacher and we'd be more than happy to help resolve any issues.

The children will also have weekly spellings to learn and also a maths activity which will help them with their maths lessons eg number bonds or times tables. Homework and spellings will be uploaded to the children's dojo account each week for you to access.

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 with your child, so you are able to support their learning. These do not need to be returned.

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 any nut products. Children will also need a labelled water bottle to have in the classroom. Please don't worry if your child forgets their snack one day, as we have fresh fruit 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. It is not a race.

Year 2 workshops

We love to share what the children are learning about and the approaches to learning in year 2. For this reason, we run 2 parent workshops where you will be invited to learn alongside your child.

The dates for these are –

Wednesday 4th October 9am - maths workshop

Wednesday 18th October 9am – English workshop