Hello and welcome to Year 2!

Year 2 Newsletter - Autumn Term 1

We hope you all had a wonderful summer holiday! We are really looking forward to getting to know the children and we are very excited for the year ahead.

The Year 2 team this year will be Mrs Barlow as class teacher supported by our HLTA Mrs Dale, who will also lead our intervention support work and early reading skills. I have put together an information pack for Year 2 parents which is available on the Year 2 Home Learning page on the school website but here is a roundup of some of the most important information to note:

P.E.

Our PE days this term will be Wednesday and Friday. Children should come to school dressed for the session on these days. Please make sure your child is not wearing earrings on PE days. Removing/covering earrings is a health and safety requirement and delays the start of the lesson.

Reading

We will continue to use the Bug Club digital reading scheme in Year 2. Your child’s log in details are on the front of their reading record. If you have any difficulties accessing the system, please let us know and we will help you log in.

Books are allocated to your child that correspond with the stage of their learning in phonics. At this age, regular but short read aloud practises with an adult are the best way to build reading skills.

We highly recommend any and all reading for pleasure alongside decoding practise using the Bug Club digital scheme. It is not possible to read too much and fluency in reading correlates directly with increased confidence in learning across the curriculum. Children will receive a half hour slot in school using Lexia each day to support reading and phonics development.

Spellings

Each week we will teach a new spelling pattern and share a list of words that include the rule we are learning. We will also teach “challenge words” which are spellings that children often find tricky because phonic patterns don’t fit. These words need to be learned off by heart. The children will be given a yellow book with their list in each Monday. I will also post the list on our website. Please do not practise spellings in this book. Children will be tested each Monday in the back of the book and will be used to assess children’s spelling progression.

Times Tables

By the end of Year 2 children need to know by heart their 2, 5 and 10 times tables so we will get started practising these in class from our first week. Some children pick these up quickly but if your child finds memorisation difficult, you might want to practise these at home. We have shared useful resources on the Year 2 home learning page of the school website. Each Friday children will be given a green book with a short times table task in it. Please complete this at home and return the book by the following Friday.

Show & Tell

We love to hear about the children’s hobbies and home lives. Show & Tell is also terrific way to build children’s confidence speaking up in front of their peers. Show and tell will be done on Monday Mornings. Please send in photos or items children might like to share.

We will use the school’s website and parent mail to share information and updates throughout the year and in the meantime, if you have any questions, please just ask!

Best wishes,

Mrs Barlow & Mrs Dale.