



Welcome to Year Two

Welcome to Year Two! We are very excited about the year ahead.

At the end of last year the children were asked all about their interests and hobbies, and also what they would like to find out during the year ahead of them. From this, we were able to create some interesting and exciting topics for the year. This term we will be enjoying two whole school topics, covering all National Curriculum key skills: 'Art Attack' and 'What a wonderful World'.

Art Attack

During this topic, we will explore a variety of artists, especially Salvador Dali. The children will produce their own art work based on the skills they will learn across the term. We will research about Christopher Columbus and produce a timeline to outline key information. During this term we will explore a variety of religious places and recognise why they are special. The children will work together to enhance their team building skills and learn new playground games that they can share with others.

What a Wonderful World

We will explore different traditions from around the world and celebrate cultures. In Science, we will focus on identifying animals and how they adapt within the world. The children will collect data to create tables and graphs through the use of software programs. We will reuse materials to work on our textiles skills. Year Two will focus on time and make number links with fractions. We will strengthen our ability to solve multiplication and division calculations through written methods. Year Two will finish the term by taking on lead roles in the Christmas production and reciting personal winter poems.

The rest of the year is outlined below:

Autumn 1st	Autumn 2nd	Spring 1st	Spring 2nd	Summer 1st	Summer 2nd
Art Attack	What a Wonderful World	Hocus Pocus	Home	Let's go Lego	The Living Planet

The timetable in Year 2 will be slightly different to Year 1 and so we have highlighted the key aspects below.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
New speed reads/spelling challenges & homework given, due in the following Monday.		Library (both classes) Playball (Come into school in black leggings/joggers with school jumper and polo shirt)	Music Dance with Jane Douglass (Come into school in black leggings/joggers with school jumper and polo shirt)	8.40 – 9.00 Parent Read-ins Speed Read checks Show and Tell (both classes)



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PE kits

Although we ask the children to wear black leggings/joggers on Wednesday and Thursday, they should always have plimsolls, red shorts and a white t-shirt hanging on their pegs. We teach PE lessons at additional times in the week. On hot PE days, we will change the children into their shorts if necessary.

Morning Routines

When pupils arrive in the mornings they are free to come into the classroom from 8:40, but we ask that they arrive no later than 8:50. Staff will tick them in from the garden gate and they will be expected to enter the classroom independently. This also allows an opportunity for parents to catch up with staff, and the 'Going-Home book' will be available to record any changes to usual pick-up. Once the children are in the classroom they should change their own books, record the title of their book and place them in the box provided for checking. It is important that the children's home learning logs are in school every day so that the class teachers have access to them when needed.

Handwriting

Pupils should have developed an effective pencil grip. Most children are already joining letters, and others focusing on the correct formation of all letters. We cannot move children onto joined handwriting until they are displaying correct letter formation. The handout provides clear guidelines on the school's agreed formation style and should be used when supporting your child at home. If you can help your child to practise their letters on lines, this will support their positioning for tall (t, l, h, k etc) and tail (g, y, j, y etc) letters.

Phonics/ Spelling

The national expectation is that pupils have completed Phase 5 in their Phonics by the end of their Year One. The handout shows all the Phase 3 & 5 sounds that the pupils should be familiar with. It would be helpful to recap these regularly, reading the sounds within words, and attempting to spell words containing these sounds. Your child's speed-read words will be based on the sounds they are learning in school. In Year Two there will be a strong focus on spelling the majority of words correctly. Children should be applying this skill throughout **all lessons**.

Show and Tell

We love to see what the children have been up to at home, and so there are 'Show and Tell' opportunities every week. We ask that children share their achievements, extra work or things they have taken time to make, however we discourage toys or gifts being shared.

Finally, it is great to have parents help in the classroom and get involved in activities with the children, as well as supporting the daily running of the classroom. If you are able to help then please let your class teacher know. Help does not have to be on a weekly basis, but could be alternate weeks, half termly, or as and when you are available. It is important for all helpers to have the appropriate clearance, so please see the office if you do not already have this in place.

We are looking forward to a great first term,

Miss Begum and Miss Sasson